

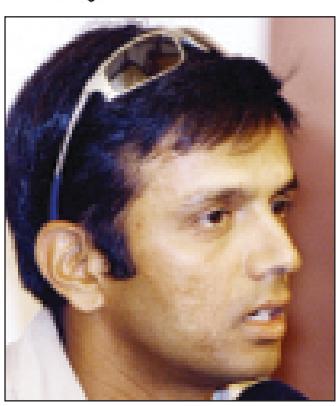


Did U Know?

The judges' oath was first introduced at the 1972 Olympic Games in Munich.



TALK TURKEY



Rahul Dravid

(India cricket captain)

"It is an honour and a privilege to have been named as captain of India for the next two series."

What to WATCH

SET Max

Australia vs World XI
Super Series Test, Day 3
Live at 6:30 am

ESPN

English Premier Football League
Birmingham City vs Aston Villa
Live at 4:55 pm
Man City vs West Ham United
Live at 8:55 pm

CAB U-17s in command

SPORTS REPORTER

The CAB (Cricket Association of Bengal) Under-17s were in the driving seat in their Bangladesh tour opener when the visitors bowled out Rajshahi U-17 XI for just 119 in the opening day of the two-day match on Saturday.

After electing to bat at the Jagnath Hall ground, the local boys lost both openers with only 13 runs on board. A painstaking 30 off 133 balls by skipper Talha Bin Tareque during a 45-run stand for the third wicket with Mysukur Rahman (23) was the only sign of resistance from the Rajshahi lads, who failed to score even two runs per over in their 70-over struggle.

Hamidul (13) and Muktar (16 not out) were the other two batsmen to cross the double-figure for Rajshahi who lost six wickets in the space of 30 runs before the last wicket partnership produced a save of 13 runs.

Soumya Pakeri and Abhishek Nanda each chipped in with three wickets for CAB, who reached 27 without loss at stumps. Sarkar Mondal with 15 and Rohan Banerjee (8) were the two batsmen at the crease.

Latvian chess coach in city

SPORTS REPORTER

Latvian Grand Master Edvins Kengis arrived in Dhaka on Saturday to join the Bangladesh Chess Federation (BCF) as its new coach.

He will prepare the national team for next year's Chess Olympiad in Turin, Italy.

The 45-year-old GM, whose rating is 2528, will train the country's top male players for three months.

The Latvian's salary would be 2,000 dollars per month, which will come from the National Sports Council's fund for intense coaching programme.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

Dear Readers

As the Daily Star approaches its 15th anniversary, the Star Sport team would like to know your feedback on how to make the pages more attractive. So, for the next two weeks send us your suggestions, comments and even criticisms within 200-250 words to sports@thecricketstar.net. We intend to publish them and wish your valuable views will enrich your favourite pages. The last date for submission of your comments is October 31.

-- Sports Editor

Al Shahriar explodes at Khulna

SPORTS REPORTER

GrameenPhone CORPORATE LEAGUE

Al Shahriar returned to his devastating best with a hurricane hundred as star-studded Beximco blew away newcomers

Orion Group in one of the three GrameenPhone Corporate Cricket League matches held at different venues across the country yesterday.

The out-of-favour Shahriar smashed 147 off 119 balls to fashion a massive 229-run victory for fancied Beximco at the Khulna Divisional Stadium. It was also the first hundred in the Corporate League this year.

The exciting stroke-maker, who lost his national cap due to inconsistency with the bat, clobbered 15 fours and eight sixes to guide Beximco to 324, the highest total so far this year.

Orient, in their chase, were bundled out for 95 in 36.2 overs.

Another debutante Banglacet fared even badly at Shaheed Chandu Stadium in Bogra where they were bowled out for 49 against Epylion who ran away with a 166-run victory.

National all-rounder Manjul Islam hammered his second successive half-century as Gazi Tank, who thrashed Bangla Cat by 125-run in the first match, continued their hundred per cent success with a 48-run victory against MM Ispahani.

The three winners are now jointly leading the 12-team table after two consecutive victories.

BEXIMCO-ORION

A cautious start by Rashedul Haque and former national opener Shahriar Hossain gave little indication of what was coming after Beximco captain Akram Khan won the toss and decided to bat.

The opening pair added 23 runs in 7 overs before Hossain departed for 14. Runs started to flow like anything when Al Shahriar joined Rashedul.

The stylish right-hander added 139 runs for the second wicket with Rashedul, who scored 68 off 105 balls that included seven boundaries.

National star Mohammad Ashraful also joined the run-feast with 34. But the talented right-hander played the role of second fiddle to a marauding Al Shahriar.

Chasing the towering total, Orion

Group were caught in the spinning web spread by two left-arm tweakers Abdur Razzak and super-sub Nadir Chowdhury who picked up three wickets each.

EPILLION-BANGLA CAT

Epylion rode on two half-centuries by Moniruzzaman and Sajjadul Hasan to score a modest 215.

National opener Shahriar Nafees was dismissed for duck in the second ball of the innings but the two half centurions laid the foundation putting

129 runs for the second wicket.

Moniruzzaman top scored with 89 off 121 balls that saw six fours and two sixes while opener Sajjadul added 50 off 108 balls.

Super-sub spinner Sajju Datta and national paceman Shahadat Hossain then ran through the Bangla Cat batting with some hostile bowling. Rajib made the early damage picking up the first three wickets for 14 runs while Saju was the most successful bowler with 4-10.

SEE PAGE 13 COL 3



DRESSING ROOM IN TOILET! Gazi Tank's Bangladesh international Aftab Ahmed changes inside the washroom of the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium yesterday. So bad is the situation of the changing room at this venue that the players have to do it here instead.

Still a dream for chess stars

SPORTS REPORTER

No one dreamed that any of the four Bangladeshi chess players would qualify for next year's World Chess Championship when they had left for Hyderabad to participate in the Fifth Asian Individual Chess Championship.

However, Reefat bin Sattar was eyeing to increase his rating to fulfil the quota of earning the Grand Master title. In the end, International Master Reefat was brought down to earth when he saw his rating drop by six points after finishing the 9-round Swiss League at 50th place with four points.

Not only Reefat, Grand Master Ziaur Rahman -- the most experienced player in the country -- also lost one rating point when he finished with 4.5 points to clinch the 42nd place.

The tournament, which concluded at the Kotla Vijaya Baskar Reddy Indoor Stadium on Saturday, however, served the two youngsters better as IMs Abdulla Al Rakib and Enamul Hossain Rajib both won prize money after securing 22nd and 34th places.

Rakib increased his rating by ten points while Rajib added one point as the two bagged 5.5 and five points respectively.

In the ninth and final round, Rakib drew with Yu Shatung of China, Rajib beat Indian IM Lanka Ravi, Zia lost to IM Meilis Annaberdi of Turkmenistan and Reefat went down to Indian GM RB Ramesh.

SEE PAGE 13 COL 5

CCDM fails to decide pool's composition

SPORTS REPORTER

The Cricket Committee of Dhaka Metropolis (CCDM) ended its meeting on Saturday without taking any decision on the national pool for the coming Premier Cricket League.

In fact, the issue remained unresolved because the national selectors had yet to decide how many players they would keep in the pool.

Before the meeting, chief selector Faruque Ahmed had said that they were confused about the pool system.

"There has been much debate about the pool composition because it has affected bowlers and wicketkeepers in the past. We have been trying to achieve a compromise that will make everybody happy," said Faruque.

"We are considering to increase the number of players in the pool as well as increasing the quota for teams," he added.

It is expected that the national pool will be increased by ten to 30 players instead and teams would be able to recruit four or five instead of the present three cricketers per side.

The meeting, chaired by CCDM chief Khondokar Jamiluddin, also rescheduled the inter-club cricketers' transfer from November 10-12 to November 14-16.

The First Division League, due to start on November 20, will begin five days later and the Premiership will start on its schedule on December 1.

The top six Premiership clubs will play in the super-league while the bottom three will play in the relegation league. Two teams will be relegated from the 12-team fray.

SEE PAGE 13 COL 2

HP Squad off the mark

SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh Cricket Board High Performance Squad finally ended their losing streak when they snatched a two-wicket win over a Sri Lankan selection in Saturday's limited-overs match.

The home side, who were four down for one at one stage and ran into further trouble at 52-8, recovered to make 143 in 40.5 overs before being bundled out in the back-to-back match at the R Premadasa Stadium in Colombo.

Fernando made unbeaten 47 while number ten Ramanayake hammered 48 from 57 balls during an 86-run stand for the ninth wicket. Nazmul Hossain grabbed 3-18 while R Islam 3-21 and Forhad Reza 2-24 to trigger the collapse.

In reply, the tourists who also wobbled at the start losing three wickets for 14, reached 147-8 in 45.4 overs. Sakib Al Hassan top-scored 35 for Bangladesh with Mashfiqur Rahim contributing 26.

The BCB squad, which lost the first four-day match in the tour by 202 runs, suffered a six-wicket defeat on the previous day. They will play three more one-dayers on October 18, 20 and 22.

World XI caught in a spin



AFP, Sydney

Leg-spin wizards Shane Warne and Stuart MacGill bamboozled the world all-stars working in tandem to give Australia a vice-like grip on the Super Test at the Sydney Cricket Ground on Saturday.

MacGill, unused in all five Ashes Tests, mopped up the brittle world resistance with the last three wickets, including Andrew Flintoff (35), Kallis (44) and Mark Boucher (0).

MacGill, unused in all five Ashes Tests, mopped up the brittle world resistance with the last three wickets, including Andrew Flintoff (35), Kallis (44) and Mark Boucher (0).

MacGill is well-placed now. This is exactly what you'd try and do in this situation," MacGill said.

"We would have rather made more runs in the first innings -- but having posted the score that we did, to take a lead of well in excess of a hundred is very good for us.

"If we can bat for another two or three days, it should be nice bowling."

Warne removed danger man Sehwag in his fourth over after the free-spirited Indian opener looked primed for his 11th century in his 36th Test.

Simon Katich latched onto a splendid reflex catch at short square leg to send Sehwag on his way after an innings studded with 14 boundaries off just 82 balls.

"We are not embarrassed. We are just basking ourselves and will play good cricket tomorrow," Sehwag said.

SEE PAGE 13 COL 2



Australian leg-spinner Stuart MacGill, who took 4-39, lets go a delivery to World XI's Andrew Flintoff on the second day of the Super Test at Sydney on Saturday.

MacGill calls for more bowling with Warne



AFP, Sydney

dem with world record holder Warne to bamboozle the world's best batsmen with their beguiling sleight of hand.

Warne, coming off his 40-wicket haul in the recent Ashes series in England, finished with 3-23 from 12 overs and now has 626 wickets in Tests.

MacGill sat forlornly in the dressing room and watched all five Tests as Australia lost the Ashes to England 2-1 last month, and believes he has developed an undeniable case to continue bowling in a leg-spin partnership with Warne in the Australian Test team.

"At some stage in the near future, somebody is going to have to look at the numbers and realise that this is not the first time Shane and I think we've both done very, very well," MacGill said after Saturday's play.

"It's a question that'll remain unanswered forever. I may not have fired a shot over there, but we'll never know."

After a certain number of wickets, I think it made a pretty strong case for being a regular feature. It's disappointing other bowlers are able to bowl together in partnership and

Shane and I can't.

"I think we do it very well and we've done it on a number of occasions now."

In 10 Tests alongside Warne, MacGill has taken 48 wickets at 22.42 while Warne has claimed 41 at 30.15.

"It's been great from the moment I started bowling with Shane and I think we've both done very, very well," he said.

MacGill was sanguine about his inactivity during the Ashes, watching helplessly as Michael Vaughan's team came from one Test down to take the series, even with fellow wrist-spinner Warne taking a bucketload of wickets.

"The fact that Shane Warne took 40 wickets on the Ashes tour -- as far as an advertisement for a second spinner, that's as good as you're going to get," he said.

"It's a question that'll remain unanswered forever. I may not have fired a shot over there, but we'll never know."

Hayden said his new tempered approach was working now.

"I have got a choice really, I am not trying to hoodwink myself either, I am a naturally aggressive player and if the bowling is off that is what I am going to be looking to do," Hayden said.

"But if the bowling is on I guess there is no point in taking the option of just going hard because you saw in the first three (Ashes) Tests that didn't work."

Hayden, who was once described by former Australian captain Steve Waugh, as batting in Bradman-class after a phenomenally prolific 2003 season, said the quality of bowling had been a factor in his form slump.

"It is not like we have been facing ordinary bowlers for the past four months; they have been very, very good bowlers with very, very strong skills and great patience and discipline," Hayden said.

"I guess it has taken some extraordinary approach to really counteract that, let's face it that