



## Did U Know?

Uruguay didn't participate in the 1934 FIFA World Cup in revenge for the boycott of the European countries four years earlier. Also the second World Cup saw the participation of an Arabic nation (Egypt) for the first time.



### Kapil Dev

(Former India cricket captain)  
"Ego is good. There has to be difference of opinion. But there should not be an ego-clash at the cost of team's interest."

**On the soured relations between Sourav Ganguly and Greg Chappell.**

**What to WATCH**

**ESPN**

South Africa vs New Zealand  
First ODI  
Live at 2:00 pm

## 'Sonali Otit has a role to play'

BSS, Dhaka

Former national footballer and Water Resources Minister Major (retd) Hafiz Uddin Ahmed yesterday said that Sonali Otit Club, a club for the players of yesteryears, could play an important role in development of the game in the country.

Speaking as the chief guest at an iftar party and a discussion on the role of Sonali Otit Club in the development of football, the minister said football is losing its attraction slowly due to lack of star players.

"We need competitive football tournaments like the President's Cup and Aga Khan Gold Cup to revive the game's popularity in our country. The players should also develop their attitude as sportsmen," he said.

# Salam also strikes



## Football

### SPORTS REPORTER

The crisis in the Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) deepened yesterday as two more former national footballers joined the long queue of resignation party after legendary Kazi Salahuddin had stepped down on Thursday.

The last two wickets to fall from the BFF's National Team Management Committee (NTMC) were Salam Murshedi and Sayeed Hassan Kanan.

Salam, who holds the unique record of scoring highest 28 league goals in a season for Mohammedan, tendered his resignation to the BFF president SA Sultan in the afternoon. Kanan, whose heated debate with an arrogant Mohammedan football secretary Amirul Islam Babu in a BFF executive committee meeting sparked the spate of resignations, also expressed his solidarity with his NTMC chairman Salahuddin.

Salahuddin decided to quit the BFF after its president disregarded their recommendations of a technical person as manager for any national selection. BFF president in a whimsi-

cal ruling appointed Babu, who has hardly kicked a soccer ball in his life, as manager of the under-20 team for the AFC Youth Championship.

"It is impossible for anybody with a sense of dignity to work in the BFF after what had happened in the last few days. If they can disrespect a person like Salahuddin bhai then there is no point for us to continue," said Salam, the prolific scorer of early 80s over phone to The Daily Star.

The former national striker also blasted the federation high-ups for creating confusion over the resignation of the 5-member management committee.

"It is unfortunate that some people are trying to focus on a secondary issue like the heated exchange between Babu and Kanan instead of harping on the main agenda. Like Salahuddin bhai the rest of the committee members have resigned because their decision of appointing a technical person as manager was overturned by the BFF president.

"We have come here not to take anything. Rather we wanted to contribute both physically and financially to the game that has been on the decline.

"I think the top brass of BFF is responsible for dragging a simple problem into a big crisis," claimed Salam, one of the contributors for the monthly salary of the Argentine coaching staff of the national team.

Salam alleged that football has been a hostage by non-technical persons over the years and the controversial ruling of the BFF boss once again proved this harsh reality.

"I don't think there was a better person than Salahuddin bhai to know the game and the problems surrounding it. I believe under his guidance football was going in the right direction. But unfortunately some people don't have the guts to come out of their medieval mindset," Salam said bitterly.

"Actually the federation did not want the team management committee to give a free hand," he opined.

"We have appreciated their efforts to assemble former footballers to bring back the glory days of football. But that does not necessarily mean we will have to be a pawn of their dirty old game in the name of so-called democratic practice," he said.

# Waugh exposes Warne



## Cricket

AFP, Sydney

Former Australian captain Steve Waugh says star leg-spinner Shane Warne is insecure, hits out at Ian Chappell and takes aim at the national selectors in his keenly-awaited autobiography.

Prime Minister John Howard will launch Waugh's 'Out Of My Comfort Zone' here Sunday with publishers Penguin reportedly paying 1.3 million dollars (975,000 US) in the biggest advance paid for an Australian book.

Waugh, who retired as Australian skipper in January last year after 168 Test matches and 10,927 runs, confirms reports from the 1999 World Cup that Warne had problems with his captaincy.

Waugh also reveals Warne, Test cricket's leading wicket-taker, to be a fierce but insecure competitor.

"Shane needs constant support, encouragement and reassurance that he is the man," he says. "He loves to be loved."

Waugh has little time for former captain Ian Chappell, who once described him as a selfish cricketer, but says he was baffled as to why the former captain didn't like him.

"It might have been that I praised

the work of (former Test coach) Bob Simpson, who was his sworn enemy, or that I didn't spend hours in the bar drinking and regurgitating old cricket



STEVE WAUGH

stories," Waugh writes.

Waugh, 40, opened up about his brother Mark's involvement in supplying pitch and weather information to an Indian bookmaker, for which he was fined by the Australian Cricket Board in 1998.

He said he was assured by his twin that he had indulged in nothing more serious than supplying match information.

Waugh said seeing Mark walk out to

bat at the Adelaide Oval to a chorus of boos after his fine was publicised was "one of the toughest couple of seconds of my cricket life".

Test cricket's longest-serving player says his sacking as one-day captain in 2002 had come three years after chairman of selectors Trevor Hohns had first suggested he was close to being dropped.

This came after Australia's rough start to the 1999 World Cup, which they eventually won.

Waugh's place in the side was saved by his match-winning century in the Super Six match against South Africa in Leeds.

"I was a little shocked at how cut-throat the selectors' attitude was."

Waugh said when the axe finally fell Hohns told him in his Melbourne hotel room on the day of the Allan Border Medal in February 2002.

"I didn't have a problem with the decision. However, I did have an issue with the lack of man-management skills involved," he says.

"Surely, after so many years playing and being the captain of a side that had been ranked No. 7 when I took over and was now No. 1, at least one phone call or conversation letting me know how the selectors saw the bigger picture would

SEE PAGE 13 COL 5

### 4-NATION SOCCER

## Rajani misses Myanmar trip

### SPORTS REPORTER

Mercurial defender Rajani Kanta Barman will not accompany the team in the four-nation football tournament in Myanmar this month.

The former national captain was the only high-profile name missing from the 24-member squad that was announced by the Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) yesterday.

Rajani was ruled out due to a knee injury he picked up during the practice session at the BKSP. He has been advised to take ten days rest.

Brothers Union winger Siraji and striker Tapu were also dropped from the preliminary squad along with Arambagh goalkeeper Shakil.

The team will leave on October 25 to play in the tournament under the guidance of new Argentine coach Diego Andres Cruciani.

China and India are the other teams in the competition. Bangladesh play China in their opening match on October 27.

SEE PAGE 13 COL 1

## CCL uncertain

### SPORTS REPORTER

Persistent rain forced organisers to defer resumption of the Grameen-Phone Corporate Cricket League (CCL) by two more days.

The tournament committee on Saturday informed that the competition will now resume on October 27 and the fixture would be bodily shifted accordingly.

"We have decided to resume the CCL on October 27 and not 25 as earlier stated. But even that remains uncertain," said Ali Hossain, secretary of the tournament committee.

He also said that six corporate houses had expressed their unwillingness to split points in rain-affected matches.

"The tournament committee will discuss their grievances today. If the rains continue to play havoc with the fixture then it will not be possible to finish the first phase within this month," he said.



PHOTO: AFP

New Zealand's Jeetan Patel, who took three wickets, bowls to Jacques Kallis of South Africa during the Twenty20 international at the Wanderers in Johannesburg on October 21. New Zealand won by five wickets.

# Greg's eyes on World Cup



## Cricket

AFP, New Delhi

India coach Greg Chappell's attempt to build a team for the 2007 World Cup faces a stern test as Sri Lanka and South Africa come calling for 12 one-day matches over the next one month.

India host Sri Lanka for a series of seven one-dayers, starting in Nagpur on Tuesday, before Graeme Smith's South Africans play another five games from mid-November.

The Indians, World Cup finalists in 2003, have slumped to number seven in the International Cricket Council's one-day rankings, while Sri Lanka are second behind Australia and South Africa fifth.

Chappell, the former Australian captain who took over as India's coach in June, wants to pick those players

whom he considers likely contenders for the next World Cup in the Caribbean.

"The year 2007 seems a long way away but we need to start looking at it seriously from now, taking into account injuries, form and other factors," he said.

"We need to use our resources wisely as it's easier for a youngster to come into an experienced side.

"Australia struggled in the 1980s because they did not bring in youngsters at the right time and we need to be careful in that regard."

Chappell has already convinced the selectors to change captains, with Rahul Dravid replacing Sourav Ganguly, India's most successful Test skipper who was involved in an ugly spat with the coach last month.

In a leaked e-mail to cricket board officials after the Zimbabwe tour, Chappell stated that Ganguly was

physically and mentally unfit to lead India.

The Indian squad for the first two one-dayers against Sri Lanka, which excludes Ganguly, also bears the Chappell stamp with a horde of youngsters rubbing shoulders with the veterans.

Seven players in the 15-man squad have played less than 20 one-day internationals and seamer S Sreesanth is a debutant.

Notable omissions due to injury or poor form include four regular front-line bowlers, Zaheer Khan, Ashish Nehra, Anil Kumble and Laxmipathy Balaji, leaving the attack badly shorn of experience.

Seamer Ajit Agarkar, with 217 one-day wickets, is the most experienced bowler in the squad. He is followed by spinner Harbhajan Singh with 127 wickets and Irfan

SEE PAGE 13 COL 5

## 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@thedailystar.net](mailto:sports@thedailystar.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

## Mondol born to swim

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Manik Chandra Mondol takes to water like a fish does to a river. No wonder that the man from West Bengal, India has recently crossed the border to challenge himself to swim at least 40 kilometres up the River Pashur (from Mongla to Chalna) in less than three-and-a-half hours on November 11 this year.

Mondol, who grew up in a place called Majherhat in Midnapore district after losing his father at age five, also spoke of his intention to swim the length and breadth of the mighty Padma as a run-up for an attempt to cross the English Channel sometime next year.

But the ace aquanaut told local journalists at the Khulna Press Club on Saturday that in order to fulfill his ambition and needed at least six lakh rupees.

"My solo English Channel attempt is scheduled for August 11 to 18 next year but I'm still trying to raise the necessary funds," said the 25-year-old Mondol.

"I'm honoured to be one of the twenty short-listed swimmers from across the world who will try to cross the famed channel," he said adding that had he received permission from the Sports Authority of India (SAI).

## Prime Bank chess

### SPORTS REPORTER

Syed Ejaz Hossain beat Syed Mahfuzur Rahman Emon to jointly lead the table along with Korshed Alam at the end of the eighth round of the Prime Bank Eighth International Rating Chess Tournament yesterday.

Ejaz and Korshed have secured seven points each while Emon slipped to second with 6.5 points. Korshed defeated Sobel.

In other eighth round matches, Parag drew with Sagar, Sumon beat Ali, Lavlu beat Nipa, Robin beat Rasel and Mustafa beat Liza.