

Enamul takes BD A closer to win

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh A require a further 78 runs to win after another brilliant spell of bowling from Enamul Haque in the third day of the first four-day match against Zimbabwe A at the Mutare Sports Club ground yesterday.

The second-string side ended the day on 34 for one as they dismissed the hosts for 388 in the secondinnings.

Test cap Stuart Matsikenyeri struck a patient 127 while Musamini missed his well-deserved ton, falling at 97.

Left-arm spinner Enamul took four for 78, while fellow left-armer Salib al-Hassan and seamer Tapash Balasa took two wickets apiece.

The wily spinner from Sylhet took 5 for 34, and now has a match-haul of 9 wickets for 112.

Zimbabwe second-string set a target of 112 runs a little more than a day to spare and Bangladesh played out the final overs losing a single wicket.

BRAC BANK CUP

ISD, Sonargaon on right track

SPORTS REPORTER

International School of Dhaka (ISD) coasted past Intercessors by 3-1 in the BRAC Bank five-a-side football tournament at the ISD indoor facilities yesterday.

Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel also won 3-1 against Hong Kong Shanghai Banking Corporation (HSBC).

Tournament sponsors BRAC Bank drew 2-2 with mobile phone operators AKTEL.

Miracle on mind

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and Japan we haven't scored, but we have created some good chances. I'm sure that we will beat Australia," added the 31-year-old who plays for Rangers in Scotland.

Croatia coach Zlatko Kranjcar predicted the 1998 semifinalists, who narrowly lost to Brazil 1-0 in their opening match, could still qualify for the next phase.

Croatia "were out of luck" against Japan, he said. "We still have strength left in us and our morale is high."

Japan are also game, said Zico, who played in three Brazilian World Cup campaigns, none of which ended in ultimate triumph.

"We are still breathing. We are alive. We'll see what we can do in the next four days."

Bolton midfielder Hidetoshi Nakata, picked as the man of the match in the Croatia game, said he would follow any game plan set down by Zico.



Did U Know?

Four countries – China, Slovenia, Ecuador and Senegal – made their debut in the 2002 World Cup finals. Although China, Slovenia and Ecuador failed to reach the second round, Senegal turned the form book upside down by reaching the quarterfinals on a run that included a shock 1-0 upset of holders France in the opening match.



What to WATCH

STAR Sports

England v Sri Lanka

Second ODI

Live at 3:45 pm



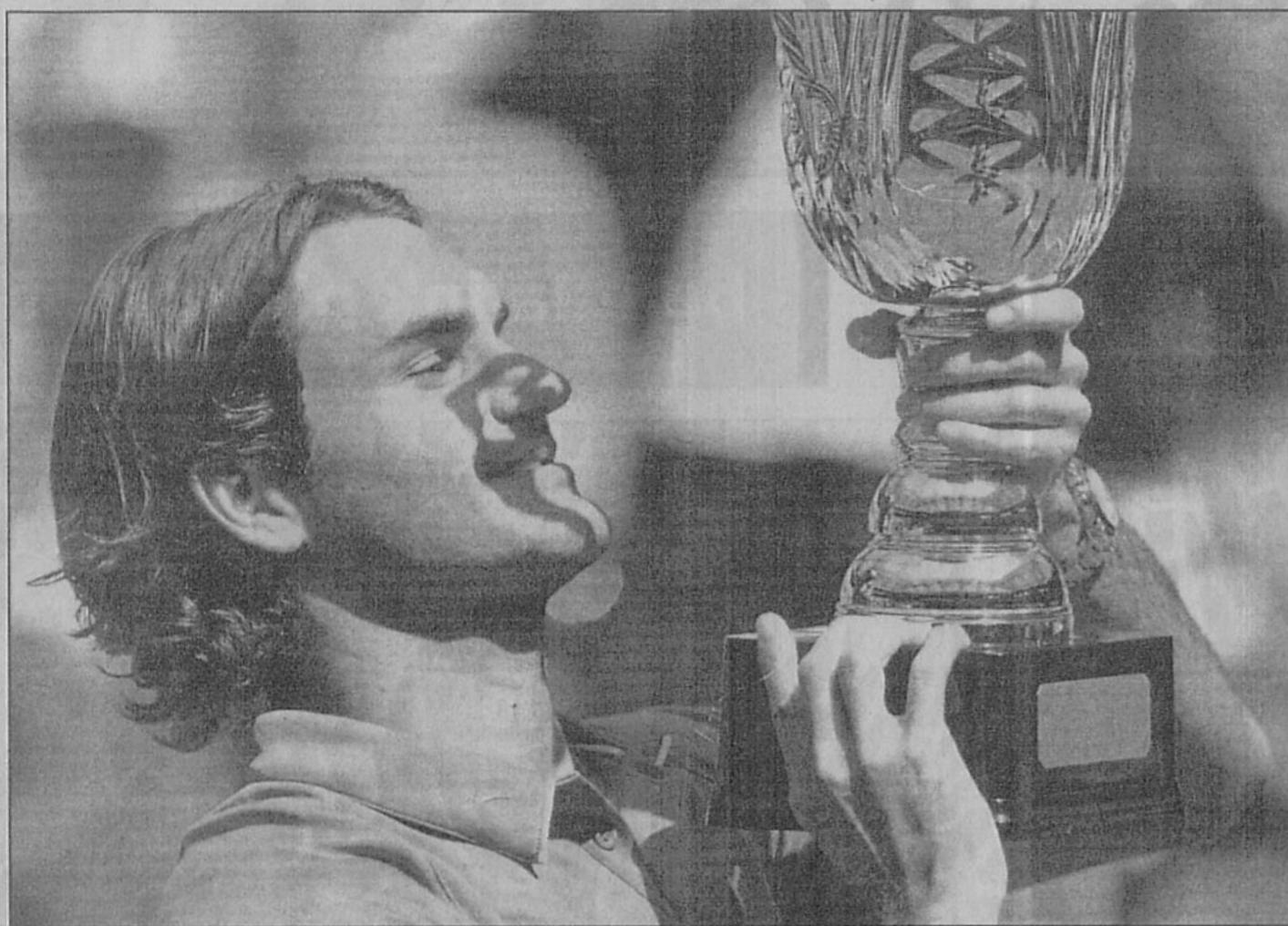
TALK TURKEY

Stephen Appiah

(Ghana football captain)

"It's fantastic. We showed we can do it. I thank the Ghanaians for their massive support and the Germans, who were shouting 'Ghana, Ghana. I couldn't believe it. I was nearly crying.'

After their stunning 2-0 victory over the Czech Republic in the World Cup.



Switzerland's Roger Federer with the trophy after winning the ATP tennis tournament in Halle on Sunday.

2ND SL-ENG ODI TODAY Duncan asks for calm

Cricket

BBC ONLINE, undated

England coach Duncan Fletcher has asked for understanding from fans for the rest of the one-day series against Sri Lanka after his side lost the opening game.

Five of Fletcher's first-choice side are missing the series, which continues at The Oval on Tuesday, through injury.

"Last year we played well against Australia in the one-day series - people keep forgetting," he said.

"If you take two players out it makes a difference. Take four or five out and it's a huge gap to fill."

England's 20-run defeat at Lord's on Saturday was their 11th in their last 15 matches.

Meanwhile, fast bowler Dilshara Fernando will look to build on a strong showing on his return to the Sri Lankan side.

Fernando, who had struggled with a no-ball problem, took 3-51 and captain Mahela Jayawardene said: "He has shown a lot of character to come back after some time."

"He worked hard back home and has shown hunger to get back into the side, which is excellent."

TEAMS
ENGLAND (from): A Strauss (captain), I Bell, T Bresnan, P Collingwood, A Cook, J Dalrymple, S Harmison, G Jones, A Loudon, S Mahmood, K Pietersen, L Plunkett, M Trescotchick, K Ali.

SRI LANKA (from): M Jayawardene (captain), K Sangakkara, M Muralitharan, S Jayasuriya, U Tharanga, T Dilshan, C Kapugedera, R Arnold, F Maharoof, C Vaas, L Malinga, D Fernando, R Perera, M Bandara.

ground on Saturday.

But the 25-year-old said: "The bottom line is the result of the game."

"I can take small personal satisfaction in hindsight, but obviously we're all disappointed to be 1-0 down and keen to put it right."

"I've had the chance to play a couple of games a cricket that maybe I wasn't expecting to play in, I've enjoyed it and I'll keep trying to do that."

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Klose, Podolski getting on well

AFP, Berlin

Germany's top World Cup marksman Miroslav Klose has denied having a fall-out with his junior strike partner Lukas Podolski.

The 28-year-old Klose offered some words of advice to Podolski, 21, after his poor showing in the 1-0 win over Poland and newspaper Bild daily claimed there had been a rift between the two Polish-born forwards.

Klose had not been pencilled in for Monday's press conference but turned out to diffuse the situation before Tuesday's match with Ecuador.

"There is no problem between myself and Lukas. We get on well," Klose said.

"I just said he needed to move more. It was encouragement."

"I was just trying to help him as we all are. He is a young player and we all know he is a sensational striker."

There has been speculation that manager Jurgen Klinsmann would take Podolski out of the firing line against Ecuador but Klose refused to give anything away.

"I expect us both to start. I have not heard anything different," said the Werder Bremen striker.

Swiss come

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their lead, the keeper doing well to deny second-half substitute Hakan Yakin on the hour but he was almost caught out by a Frei pot shot from near the halfway line.

Kuhn, mindful that goal difference could figure highly in who goes into the second round, bolstered his attack by replacing Cabanas with Cologne forward Marco Streller.

But it was to be Barnetta with a low angled shot from the right who was to come up with Switzerland's second two minutes from time.

TEAMS
SWITZERLAND: Pascal Zuberbuhler, Philipp Degen, Patrick Muller, Philippe Senderos, Ludovic Magnin; Tranquillo Barnetta, Ricardo Cabanas (Marco Streller 77), Johann Vogel, Raphael Wicky; Daniel Gygax (Hakan Yakin 46); Alexander Frei (Mauro Lustinielli 88). Yellow card: Vogel (90+2)

TOGO: Kossi Agassa; Assimio Toure, Massamassou Tchangai, Dore Nibombe, Richmond Forson; Thomas Dossevi (Yao Junior Senna 69), Kuami Agbok (Moustapha Salifou 25), Alaiys Roma, Cherif Toure (Robert Malm 87); Mohamed Kader, Emmanuel Adebayor.

Yellow card: Salifou (45), Adebayor (47), Roma (52). Referee: C Amarilla (Paraguay)

Attendance: 65,000

Roger on par with Bjorn

Tennis

AFP, Halle

set between 1976 and 1981.

The Swiss can set a new record when he opens the defence of his Wimbledon title the week after next.

"This is a great moment for me. Coming in the week directly after the French Open it was especially hard for me," said a tired Federer who saw his bid to win an elusive French Open title thwarted by Rafael Nadal at Roland Garros last weekend.

"Halle has always brought me luck in recent years. I hope it stays that way."

Federer's last defeat on grass came against Mario Ancic in the first round at Wimbledon in 2002.

The world number one came into the tournament as an overwhelming favourite but needed to win four consecutive three-set matches from the second round on to achieve a career first - winning a title four straight times.

His sternest test came in the quarterfinals against Belgian Olivier Rochus when he needed to save four match points before advancing in three tie-breaks.

The station broadcasts a humorous "Lukas's diary", but Poldi has not seen the funny side.

"When it comes to something so low you have to defend yourself," said his agent Kon Schramm.

WDR says it will continue with the series regardless.

WC BRIEFS

WC BRIEFS

FROM PAGE 24

Lukas's diary

German striker Lukas Podolski is threatening to stop giving interviews to German radio station WDR after finding some of its satirical World Cup content about him below the belt.

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Don't celebrate goals

The World Cup is a potential boon for the German television licence authority as its snooper-vans chase after.

"We are reinforcing our teams during the World Cup," a spokesman said.

The snooper vans have a simple enough method of gaining a tip off as fans shout out every time there is a goal.

Cech mate

Czech keeper Peter Cech says he tried to persuade Argentine referee Horacio Elizondo to scrub a yellow card for Asamoah Gyan after June 9 in Berlin, he went on.

Whereas Brazil can only match their 2002 showing, the Argentines are on a mission to erase the memory of a flop which comprised a first-phase exit four years ago.

Yet in the current spirit of treating the favourites' tag as a hot potato Argentina are among other candidates for glory on June 9 in Berlin, he went on.

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He admits that "now we are one of the favourites - but it isn't going to go our head."

Esteban Cambiasso, the Inter Milan midfielder who completed a wonderful flowing move to net against the Serbs, says Brazil still set the standard even if their "jogo bonito" (beautiful game) has been little in evidence thus far.

"Argentina are a side on a par with Brazil when it comes to technical quality and they are well prepared. They are cool and not under any pressure," according to the man who won the 1994 title for the reigning champions.

Pekerman may regard such talk as a ploy to share out the pressure on the South American giants.

One man who knows both countries' respective merits well is Argentine midfielder Javier Mascherano, who plays his club football with Corinthians in Brazil

and who insists the squad is unfazed by the odds shortening on a third Argentine triumph rather than his rivals completing a "Hexacampeao" sixth.

"We are not worried about all the talk about us. We have to think about getting a result against Holland (in the final group game in Frankfurt on Wednesday)," says Mascherano.

Certainly past tournaments have suggested only a brave man would argue against the Brazilians moving through the gears from now on.

After squashing Serbia and Montenegro 6-0, Argentina are in contrast wary of peaking too early, with Jose Pekerman's albiceleste currently looking the team to beat -- as Parreira has already acknowledged.

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However, two things happened when Ronaldo was taken off. Australia went all out with an added man in attack. Secondly, it inspired a "conservative" Brazil to play on the wings of Robinho.

Australia, who took the field to take one point, saw no reason to sit back any more and challenged their mighty rivals. Substitute Harry Kewell twice failed to put the ball into an empty goal, Bresciano was denied by Dida's superb one-handed save and Viduka headed the ball on a free kick just wide. Well, Brazil could have lost the match there.

And surprisingly, France decided to sit on the lone goal. Shall we blame Raymond Domenech, who suffocated his midfield by replacing Wiltord with Frank Ribery, leaving Henry alone and ruin their chances?

Dick Advocaat once again brought on Ahn Jung-hwan and the extra attacker gave Korea the edge, the pressure telling on the ageing goalkeeper Fabien Barthez nine minutes from time when Park Ji-sung delicately flicked the equaliser, bringing the anger out of William Gallas whose bid to clear the ball failed.

David Trezeguet finally came on the pitch, in the injury time, and it was too late. The man he replaced, Zidane, knew it could be his last World Cup appearance after picking up his second yellow card. He will miss the match against Togo, which the French must win to give one of their greatest footballers a chance to ride off into a glorious sunset.

Hoeneß for Hargreaves

INTERNET, undated