



Did U Know?

The fastest red card in a World Cup was given to Uruguayan player Sergio Batista after just 56 seconds in their first round match against Scotland in 1986.

Biman, Russel stay on course

SPORTS REPORTER

Sheikh Russel Krira Chakra and Bangladesh Biman maintained their AB Bank Senior Division Table Tennis League title chase with all-win records.

Mostafa lost his game but holders Russel disposed off Armanitola 3-1 while Biman blanked Wari 3-0 in yesterday's matches at the Woodenfloor gymnasium.

In other matches, Ajax beat Brothers 3-1 while Mohammedpur Boys beat Engineers Club in straight sets.

On Tuesday, Biman beat Engineers Club 3-0, Russel downed Ajax 3-1, Armanitola defeated Wari 3-1 and Brothers blanked Mariners 3-0.

Sanath wants T20 success

BBC ONLINE, *undated*

Sri Lanka batsman Sanath Jayasuriya is determined to make a big impression for Lancashire in the Twenty20 Cup.

He has joined the club for a month as a replacement for compatriot Muttiah Muralidaran, who will be on Test duty against Bangladesh.

"It's exciting -- I'm really looking forward to playing for Lancashire.

"This form of cricket is very interesting. I've played quite a few games and really enjoyed it," the 37-year-old commented.

Jayasuriya, who played for Somerset two years ago, will make his debut in Friday's game against Durham at Old Trafford.

Lancashire, the runners-up two years ago, are hoping to see the kind of style which brought him fifty off 23 balls against New Zealand last December, the fastest half century in a Twenty20 international.

And an added bonus is that Jayasuriya will also be available for the home Roses Championship match against Yorkshire, starting on July 8.

"Murali wanted me to come and replace him for a month, so I said I would come until he comes back," he added.

Morales hopes

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We could not exceed 2,500 metres while now it's 2,800m, with the possibility to go until 3,000m which can modify all the data," added Deluca.

On Friday morning a member of the Connebol's medical commission claimed that FIFA were ready to authorise international matches to be played at a maximum of 3,000m and not 2,500m as they originally ruled.

This would allow Bogota (2,640m) and Quito (2,800) to host qualifying matches for the 2010 World Cup, but not Bolivia capital La Paz (3,577m) and Cuzco (3,300).

According to Connebol, FIFA's executive committee are due to meet again in Zurich on June 27 to discuss the affair.

Mourinho

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later I was in London and I could feel also for the fans the feeling was special. After two Premierships and two Carling Cups before, I think at the moment we won't change this FA Cup for anything."

Injuries to key players like goalkeeper Petr Cech (fractured skull), captain Terry (back and head), Joe Cole (foot) and Arjen Robben (various), robbed Mourinho of the chance to field his best side and use all the options available to him for much of the season.

Chelsea still managed to keep in the hunt for an unprecedented four trophies right up until the end of the season but Mourinho is hoping next season will not be dogged by similar injury problems so that he will be able to use his squad to the full.

He added: "I use the word a lot of times but last season was 'survival'. We want to succeed in competitions, we cannot lose matches.

"The situation of playing with the best team, using the tactical systems not just to get the result but to play at the high level, everything was impossible.

"What I want is solutions in my hands. It is like playing chess and you don't have bishops and horses.

"I want to have everything in my hands to promote competitiveness between our players, promote doubts in the opponents, to give culture to my teams in terms of tactics, to have options in relation to my needs."



PHOTO: AFP

World number one Justine Henin of Belgium in action during her straight sets win over Agnieszka Radwanska of Poland at the Eastbourne Open in England on Wednesday.

Monty spins magic



AFP, *Chester-Le-Street*

Monty Panesar enhanced his growing reputation by taking five wickets for 46 runs as England wrapped up a 3-0 series win against the West Indies with a seven-wicket victory in the fourth and final Test here at the Riverside.

It was the sixth time in his 17-match Test career that the 25-year-old left-arm spinner had taken five or more wickets in an innings.

England captain Michael Vaughan was impressed by the latest example of "Monty magic".

So too was West Indies coach David Moore, who chose Panesar as England's man of the series after a haul of 23 wickets at under 19 apiece, including 10 in England's 60-run third Test win at Old Trafford.

"Obviously Monty produced his

magic once again," Vaughan told reporters after stumps on Tuesday.

And he cited a textbook delivery, which pitched on middle and hit the off-stump of West Indies' Denesh Ramdin, as an example of Panesar's skill.

"It was a slower wicket with not much spin but I think the delivery which he got Ramdin out with will be a delivery that is shown to young left-arm spinners for a long time. It was a perfect spinning delivery.

"He's offering control and giving it a good rip."

But Vaughan, who ended the match on 48 not out, said England had been put in a position to win by a stand of 169 between Paul Collingwood, who made 128 on his Durham home ground, and wicketkeeper Matthew Prior.

That helped revive England from 165 for six before they were eventually bowled out for 400 --- a

first innings lead of 113.

"Trying to force a victory from the position looked a long shot but full credit to the batsmen and Paul Collingwood in particular for getting a hundred on his home ground," said Vaughan.

"That partnership with Matthew Prior certainly swayed the momentum towards us. When you get a hundred lead you always know there's only one team who can win the game."

England's success in their first Test campaign since a 5-0 Ashes hammering in Australia gave Peter Moores a win in his debut series as England coach after he replaced Duncan Fletcher.

"It's a great start for Peter Moores," said Vaughan. "What we did do is win all the crucial sessions and every time we needed a partnership or a wicket we got one."

ENGLAND: Second innings				
Strauss b Powell	13			
Cook c Bravo b Powell	7			
Vaughan not out	48			
Pietersen c Samuels b Gayle	28			
Collingwood not out	5			
Extras (b-4, nb-6)	10			
Total: (For 3 wks in 21.3 overs)111				
Fall of wickets: 1-16, 2-29, 3-105.				
Not out bat: Bell, Prior, Harmison, Hoggard, Sidebottom, Panesar.				
Bowler	O	M	R	W
Edwards	7	0	46	0
Powell	7	0	38	2
Samuels	4	0	12	0
Gayle	3.3	0	11	1

Result: England won by seven wickets and clinched the four-match series 3-0.

Man-of-the-match: Shivnarine Chanderpaul.

Men-of-the-series: Monty Panesar and Shivnarine Chanderpaul.

Hoggard (three for 28) and edged to wicketkeeper Matthew Prior.

England, who'd been in trouble at 165 for six in their first innings, saw all-rounder Collingwood steer them to 400.

West Indies' first innings also featured a recovery after they'd collapsed to 55 for four. Chanderpaul and Bravo (44) added 86 for the fifth wicket in a total of 287.

SCOREBOARD

Final scoreboard on the fifth day of the fourth and final Test between England and the West Indies at Riverside on Tuesday:

WEST INDIES: First innings 287 (Chanderpaul 136 n o; Sidebottom 5-88)

ENGLAND: First innings 400 (Collingwood 128, Strauss 77, Prior 62; Edwards 5-112, Powell 3-89)

WEST INDIES: Second innings 222 (Gayle 52, Chanderpaul 70, Bravo 43; Hoggard 3-28, Panesar 5-46)

Pratap Singh, Ishant Sharma, Ranadeb Bose, Anil Kumble, Ramesh Powar.

ODISQUAD

Rahul Dravid (captain), Mahendra Dhoni (vice-captain), Gautam Gambhir, Robin Uthappa, Sourav Ganguly, Sachin Tendulkar, Yuvraj Singh, Dinesh Karthik, Rohit Sharma, Zaheer Khan, Shanthakumaran Sreesanth, Rudra Pratap Singh, Ajit Agarkar, Piyush Chawla, Ramesh Powar.

Panesar in top 10

BBC ONLINE, *undated*

England's Monty Panesar has broken into the top 10 of the world rankings for the first time after his superb display in the victory over West Indies.

The left-arm spinner took 5-46 to help set up England's seven-wicket win and finish the series as England's man of the series with 23 wickets.

He is joint-sixth with Matthew Hoggard in the rankings, which are led by fellow spinner Muttiah Muralidaran.

Alastair Cook has climbed to a new high of 20th in the batting rankings.

Cook, 22, has enjoyed an incredible start to his Test career since coming into the side in March 2006.

The Essex left-hander hit two centuries in the 3-0 series win against the West Indies.

Panesar's accuracy and wicket-taking threat caused problems to all the opposition during the fourth and final Test at the Riverside.

"It's been an unbelievable series to get 23 wickets in the four Test matches and I feel very lucky with the way things have gone," said Panesar.

"I am very pleased with my performances."

At the start of the series there was some discussion in the media that the 25-year-old, who only made his Test debut in India last year, would be left out of the team for the first Test to accommodate an extra seamer.

He made that debate look ridiculous by taking 6-129 in the first innings and although he only took one wicket in the second Test, he was inspirational in the third.

He took his first 10-wicket haul to spin England to a series victory and continued his impressive form in the final Test at Chester-le-Street.

Kenya to host warm-up ties

AFP, *Nairobi*

Kenya will host a four-nation Twenty20 tournament as a warm-up for the inaugural world championships in South Africa in mid-September, cricket officials said on Wednesday.

"We will make it a quadrangular tournament involving four national teams," Cricket Kenya chairman Samir Inamdar told AFP.

Pakistan and Bangladesh have confirmed their participation alongside hosts Kenya. The fourth nation in the tournament -- due to kick off in the last week of August -- has yet to be confirmed but Inamdar said it could be Sri Lanka.

The World Twenty20 championships, which will involve all ten test sides as well as qualifiers Kenya and Scotland, starts in South Africa on September 12.

Meanwhile the India "A" team will tour Kenya next month to play two four-day matches and two one-day games against Kenya.

Vieira hints

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club, which has failed to win silverware since winning the FA Cup in 2005.

"I've a contract for one more year here and I'll complete that contract," Wenger told the News of the World.

"I've never broken a contract in my entire career and next summer I will sit down with the board and see."

BCCI having

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Apart from the regular media gag, the Board has decreed that as on previous tours, it will only be the manager Chandu Borde and skipper Rahul Dravid who will speak to the press. "Please do not give any interviews without the permission of the team management," the letter says.

The letter also mentions the daily allowance of the team during the three legs of the tour with a break-up of the same being provided.

Meanwhile, skipper Dravid will be India's Sporting Ambassador for an event launched by Mayor of London called 'India Now.' The letter instructs the players and the management to attend the event to be kick-started on July 17.

At the end of it all, the Board is hopeful that the players will manage to erase the memories of the recent past. "You have an opportunity to rebuild the confidence of the people in Indian cricket and we are sure that you will do your best on this tour," signed off the letter.

Milan, Inter

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in Serie A last season. His best return was 22 goals in 37 matches in the 2005-06 season.

Galliani insisted Milan did not move for Suazo -- who joined Sardinian side Cagliari from Honduran club Olimpia in 1999 -- just to irritate their neighbours.

"There was no intention to be spiteful," he said. "We have tracked Suazo for more than a year, and Cellino told us that talks with Inter had broken down. That's when we opened negotiations."

End of Vaughan?



AFP, *Chester-Le-Street*

Michael Vaughan has admitted he made the decision to stand down as England one-day captain while the team were at the World Cup in the West Indies.

Vaughan, still England's Test skipper, formally announced he was giving up the leadership of the one-day side on Monday although he said he still wanted to play both forms of the game.

As recently as last month, Vaughan spoke out against a split captaincy.

And on Tuesday, after England wrapped up a 3-0 Test series win against the West Indies at the Riverside, he said having two skippers "could be the end of MV", just as his appointment as one-day captain heralded the end of predecessor Nasser Hussain's time in charge of England four years ago.

Both Vaughan and England endured a poor World Cup in the Caribbean, the side failing to reach the semifinals.

The 32-year-old Yorkshire batsman didn't improve on a mediocre one-day record that has seen him yet to score a century in an 86-match career where his average is 27.15 compared to a Test mark of just under 44.

"I'll be honest I made the decision in my heart in West Indies," Vaughan told reporters after stumps at the Riverside here Tuesday.

"But I didn't want to just come out and say that because I thought there'd been enough talk," he added, explaining he'd been influenced by coach Duncan Fletcher's decision to quit.

"Duncan had just resigned, so I came home and spoke to a lot of people but not one of them told me to stand down, so I thought maybe I should carry on.

"Then two weeks passed by and I remember sitting at home with my wife and saying it's just not the right thing.

"So it's the right time to get a new captain in charge and give him as many games as he needs to be a good one-day captain because he needs 60-70 matches of experience.

"Big decisions will be the difference between winning and losing."

He added: "I said I didn't think split captains would work but if it's going to work it will with someone like me because I'm pretty chilled."

"I'm very confident that it can work but let's just wait and see. If a new captain comes in and does a magnificent job that's the end of MV."

"I'm just happy to be playing cricket. We have never been a good one-day team (England haven't won a major international one-day tournament) and we need to start winning."

England are due to announce on Friday their squad for the upcoming two Twenty20 clashes and three one-day internationals against the West Indies.

"I certainly don't expect to be picked on Friday because I think a

new captain would find it very difficult captaining me a week after I've led him in a Test," said Vaughan.

"He deserves a little bit of time to get his authority over to the team, and if I was there it might be difficult for him. So I think it's best for the team that I'm not there for a while."

"Who knows, if I'm playing well in a few months or next year that I won't come back into the one-day team. But my one-day record isn't that good and it could be a long shot."

Asked who his successor should be, Vaughan replied: "Paul Collingwood would make a good captain, as would Andrew Strauss and Kevin Pietersen. But whoever gets it, I wish them all the luck in the world."

Vaughan has spent much of the past 18 months on the sidelines injured, mainly as a result of a longstanding knee problem.

"The 18 months I've had has been a tough time. I knew my knee hadn't been great but over the past few weeks it's been as strong as it has been for years. "I'm moving okay in the field, apart from when I missed the ball and my pants (trousers) fell down," said Vaughan in a reference to an embarrassing slip on Tuesday. "But I'm committed to be as good a Test captain as I can be."

More of the same



CRICINFO, *undated*

The bigwigs in Sri Lanka Cricket, traditionally a bastion of incompetence and blinkered thinking, can be excused if they are in self-congratulatory mood. With the emphasis clearly on continuity they have chosen the highly respected Australian Trevor Bayliss to take over from Tom Moody.

The management of Sri Lanka Cricket has improved to the extent that Moody was able to forge a remarkably harmonious relationship with his employers. He was given the freedom to build a proper coaching structure and was treated with a professionalism that helped erase the damaging global perception that Sri Lanka Cricket was a home to crooks, cronies and incompetents.

The early indications are that Trevor Bayliss is cut from a similar cloth to Tom Moody. In the only interview he conducted before rushing back to New South Wales, Bayliss described himself as a "practical kind of coach". The rest of the interview in The Island was music to the players' ears: in a nutshell he seems to want to build on the progress under Moody and not set off in a new direction. "Tom Moody and Trevor Penney have done great work with the team and my job is to continue that," he told The Island.

Prior to the final selection the shortlist comprised Bayliss, Terry Oliver and Jamie Siddons, all recommended by Moody, who knew just what type of coach Sri Lanka needs. Siddons, the head coach at the Centre of Excellence in Brisbane, was snapped up in a hurry by Cricket Australia, but both Oliver and Bayliss enthusiastically travelled to Colombo for interviews.

Away from the overwhelming glare of the media, the candidates presented their ideas to a highly qualified Cricket Committee, who in turn quickly reached a decision. Oliver, the coach of Queensland, impressed first, but the committee was more convinced by Bayliss.

"I guess I am a practical kind of coach, bringing in adjustments where they have to be brought in, but without stifling ingenuity. Coaching has changed over the years with advancing technology, but the basics never change," Bayliss told The Island.

This suits Sri Lanka to a T. They want someone to add structure and direction to their natural flamboyance. The team needs organisation and careful one-on-one management, not grandiose ideas and high-tech gadgetry. Most of all, they yearn for continuity. The team is ambitious, motivated and internally united. What they want is someone to steer a similar course to Moody, arguably the most successful coach in Sri Lanka's history -- although Dav Whatmore is the only one with a World Cup winner's medal.

The key test for Bayliss, though, will be whether he can match Moody's behind-the-scenes authority. Moody was not publicly demonstrative, retaining a calm composure throughout, but he was not afraid to speak his mind in private when players stepped out of line.

The fact that he played for Australia gave him an obvious advantage over Bayliss, who boasts only a modest first-class record for New South Wales, but Sri Lanka's current set of players are not obsessed with status: if Bayliss can coach then he will soon win their respect.

Rumesh Ratnayake, the new assistant coach, will help Bayliss -- who claims to have little interest in music or movies but has a passion for baked dinners, according to The Island. His appointment will not only placate the nationalists; it was a long overdue recognition that he was a fine bowling coach who was wasted as a development officer for the Asian Cricket Council.

In addition, Bayliss is expected to bring a possible fielding coach to ensure that the great progress under Penney, an assistant coach with an evangelical passion for fielding, is not wasted.

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Bayliss, who has rarely stepped out of New South Wales, has played and coached for most of his life in the state, so he will need to come to Colombo in August with a very open mind. But his "eagerness to step out of his comfort zone", as he calls it, is an encouraging prerequisite for succeeding here.

Coaching Sri Lanka may be exhilarating and fulfilling at times, but it can also be frustrating in a real tear-your-hair-out way. He will start from a solid platform with a talented squad, a fine captain, a listening selection chief and a supportive cricket board, but he must not kid himself that this is the natural order for a foreign coach in Sri Lanka -- he must brace himself for the journey of a lifetime.

Mohammedan

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threatened to reduce the margin immediately after resumption. But he mistimed his effort from a hand-shaking distance before forcing the only save by Himel, who tipped over a top-of-the-box.

Mohammedan regained their appetite for goals on the hour when Paul forced a corner and the resulting flag-kick was headed in by Mithu to make it 5-0.

The diminutive medio hit the crossbar before getting his second, finishing a one-two move with Paul off a deflection in the 71st minute while an overlapping Odafe exchanged passes with substitute Asad before sealing the victory one minute from time with a low drive from 15 yards.

Yellow cards: Sharif, Paul (Mohammedan).

TEAMS

Mohammedan: Himel, Arif, Odafe, Biplob, Kamal, Belal (Ripon), Mithu, Divine, Sharif (Asad), Emeka (Asad) and Paul.

Chittagong Mohammedan: Tito, Tareq, Sohel, Saikat (Doe), Sanwar, Zahid, Asif, Camara, Towhid (Pavel), Yousuf and Dipu (Jashim).

Referee: Ramkrishna Ghosh.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS		36	Grown-up elver	58	Teensy Arp's art	16	Historic period	
1	Approached the plate	37	Renders speechless	DOWN	1	Impale	20	Ferni's bit
5	Erstwhile acorn	38	Venomous vipers	2	Timber wolf	22	Leftovers recipe	
8	Easy marks	39	Bleacher denizen	3	Unyielding	23	Cotton-tails	
12	Address	41	Unwanted e-mail	4	Strip	25	Curly's brother	
13	Evening hour in old Rome	43	Jagger's band	5	Eggs	26	Haven't paid yet	
14	Fall hard	46	Undergo catharsis	6	Have a bug	27	Card game for	
15	Most importantly	50	Hoodlum	7	Furnace of a sort	28	Card game for	
17	"Three Sisters" sister	51	Pop song of 1952	8	Enterprise officer	29	Point	
18	Huge goof	54	Dumbo's "wings"	9	A very late time	31	Energy	
19	Torilla chips	55	Chic no longer	10	Comic-strip possum	32	Driver's lic. et al.	
21	Obi	56	Greek vowels	11	Resorts international?	34	Logical	
24	Ring decision	57	Atomizer squirt			38	Entertained	
25	Castle protection	Solution time: 21 mins.					40	Apprehension
28	Mexican entree	G A L A R T A N G G A N G					42	Suitable
30	Submachine gun	A V O N E T H I O R					43	Goblet feature
33	Night bird	P A S S W O R D A N T					44	Siamese
34	Antioxin	G I V E N B U S S					45	Pack away
35	Disen-cumber	A D A R P A S S K E Y S					47	—lat-lon
		S E T T R I E R G E E					48	Pressed
		P A S S W O R D C O T E					49	"Born Free"
		M A R V A N B A S I N					50	liens
		T I T E M P A S S O V E R					52	Shanding
		S C A P S U N P I L L					53	Noshed on
		S P R Y E F T Y A M S						