

Eves bowl UAE out for 9

TIGERCRIKET.COM, undated

Bangladesh women's cricket team bowled out United Arab Emirates for only 9 runs in their opening match of the eight-nation ACC women's cricket tournament at the PT Ibrahim Institute ground in Johor yesterday.

After skipper Tazkia Akhtar deciding to bowl first, they packed off the UAE batswomen inside nine overs for only 9 runs. Panna Ghosh took five wickets for six runs while Shamima Akhtar grabbed three wickets for two runs.

In reply, the two Bangladeshi openers only took eight balls to reach the winning target. Chameli remained unbeaten on 6 while her partner Tazkia was on 1 as Bangladesh won by ten wickets.

Bangladesh will take on Singapore in their second match on Friday.

Camoranesi extends Juve contract

AFP, Rome

Italian World cup winning midfielder Mauro Camoranesi will be staying at Juventus until 2010 after signing an extension to his contract on Tuesday, the club announced.

Camoranesi joined Juventus in 2002 and has since turned out in 206 games, scoring 21 goals.

The 30-year-old is the third senior player over the summer to pen a new deal at Juve ahead of the new season after French striker David Trezeguet and World Cup winning goalkeeper Gianluigi Buffon.

Reds to sign Benayoun

AFP, Liverpool

Liverpool on Tuesday reached agreement over a fee with West Ham for midfielder Yossi Benayoun, the player's agent Ronen Katzav said.

The Israeli has been a target of Reds manager Rafael Benitez for some weeks and after haggling over the price 27-year-old the two clubs appear to have struck a deal.

And now a fee -- as yet undisclosed -- has been settled on Katzav expects the transfer to be completed pretty swiftly.

"It should be completed in the next 48 hours. Everybody would be happy to play for Liverpool. West Ham will always be in his heart but he is looking to move up a level."

Amal clinches

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In the age-group events, Omar Sunny beat Mozammel Hossain 7-5, 6-4 to clinch the boys' under-16 while Tasnuva Shahid came from behind to beat Aita Zaman Bhabna 0-6, 6-2, 6-3 to lift the girls' title for the same age limit. In the boys' under-13 final, Biplob Ram emerged champion beating Rustam Ali 5-7, 6-0, 6-1.



PHOTO: INTERNET

Bowlers Panna Ghosh (R) holds the match ball along with Shamima Khatun after the pair skittled out UAE in their first match of the ACC Women's Cricket Tournament at the PT Ibrahim Institute ground in Johor yesterday.

Geoff favourite for Pak job

Cricket

PTI, Karachi

Australian fast bowler Geoff Lawson seems to have nudged ahead of compatriots Dav Whatmore and Richard Done in the race to become the Pakistan cricket coach with captain Shoaib Malik favouring him over the other two candidates.

Pakistan's cricket manager Talat Ali, who met with the chairman of the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) to discuss the issue, has also admitted to supporting Lawson.

All is confident that the national team will have a fulltime coach before the Twenty20 World Cup in South Africa in September.

The PCB will discuss the credentials off all three prospective candidates and take a final decision on the new coach at an ad-hoc commit-

Bianchi close to City

AFP, Rome

Reggina striker Rolando Bianchi is close to becoming Sven Goran Eriksson's first signing for English Premiership club Manchester City, Reggina president Lillo Foti said on Tuesday.

"The deal is in the final phase. We have not signed on anything yet, but we have reached an agreement," Foti said.

The fee for the 24-year-old Serie A forward is said to be in the region of 8.5 million pounds (17 million dollars).

Bianchi, 24, is regarded as one of the best young forwards in Italy.

He joined Reggina from Serie A rivals Cagliari in 2005 and his 18 goals helped the Calabrian side survive relegation last season.

According to Italian media reports, newly-promoted Serie A clubs Juventus and Napoli were also chasing Bianchi.

Former England manager Eriksson was installed as Manchester City's new coach last week.

Sussex draw with India

AFP, Hove

India were denied victory in the opening match of their England tour as county champions Sussex saw their last-wicket pair hold out for a draw on the fourth and final day here on Tuesday.

Sussex, set 273 to win, finished on 190 for nine.

India leg-spinner Anil Kumble took three for 57 but Robin Martin-Jenkins, with 45 not out and last man Jason Lewry, who survived 24 balls while making an unbeaten eight, hung on to avoid defeat.

In all 17 wickets fell on the last day, eight of them belonging to India. But having been 120 for eight, India saw No 10 Rudra Pratap Singh, primarily a left-arm quick, scores 41 not out.

Singh put on 64 for the ninth wicket with India captain Rahul Dravid, who declared with his side on 184 for eight.

India now play England Lions -- the new name for England's A side - in a three-day match at Chelmsford, the home of eastern county Essex, in a three-day match starting on Friday.

The first Test of a three-match series against England is scheduled to begin at Lord's a week on Thursday.

SCORES IN BRIEF

INDIA: 388 for 7 declared (Laxman 95, Gambhir 81, Karthik 76, Dravid 57 ret hurt; Saqlain 3-71) and 184 for 8 declared.

SUSSEX: 300-6 declared (Hodd 106 not out, Yardy 53; Kumble 3-66) and 190-9 (Montgomerie 59; Kumble 3-57).

Result: Sussex drew with India.

Gourcuff extends Milan contract

AFP, Rome

Talented French midfielder Yoann Gourcuff has signed a one-year contract extension with AC Milan, the Serie A club said on Tuesday.

The 20-year-old's new deal will keep him with the reigning European champions until 2012.

Gourcuff, who joined AC Milan from French first division side Rennes last summer, is regarded as a star in the making but spent most of last season on the bench.

Gourcuff played for the France side that won the 2005 under-19 European championship.

Marcus back

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some of the darkest days I've ever had. It's nice to get recognition in one-day cricket."

Among the players who missed out, despite being involved in the World Cup campaign in the West Indies are former one-day captain Michael Vaughan and opening batsman Andrew Strauss.

The inaugural World Twenty20 takes place in South Africa from September 11-24.

PROVISIONAL 30

Paul Collingwood (captain), James Anderson, Ian Bell, Ravi Bopara, Tim Bresnan, Stuart Broad, Glen Chapple, Alastair Cook, Andrew Flintoff, James Kirtley, Jon Lewis, Mai Loye, Darren Maddy, Dimitri Mascarenhas, Paul Nixon, Monty Panesar, Mark Pettini, Kevin Pietersen, Liam Plunkett, Matt Prior, Chris Schofield, Owais Shah, Ryan Sidebottom, Jeremy Snape, Vikram Solanki, Chris Tremlett, Marcus Trescothick, Ian Trott, Luke Wright, Michael Yardy.

Abahani cross

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BROTHERS: Nizam, Lajuk (Faisal), Rony, Shuvra, Masud Rana, Shakil, Liton (Monwar), Inani, Mamun, Tapu (Manju) and Junior.

TOP SCORERS

14 goals: Junior (Brothers), Paul (Mohammedan)

9 goals: Emily (Abahani), Emeka (Mohammedan)

7 goals: Robin (Farashganj), Alfaz (Muktijoddha)

6 goals: Nicodemus (Arambagh), Abraham (Ctg Abahani), Younes (Russel), Moni (Muktijoddha)

5 goals: Khokon (Ctg Abahani)

4 goals: Prashanta, Mamun (Khulna Abahani), Ighir (Russel), Abul (Abahani), Brahim (Muktijoddha)

3 goals: Pikul, Tajul (Khulna Abahani), Ibrahim, Nazrul (Abahani), Apu (Rahmatganj), Biketi, Iddi (Arambagh), Asif (Ctg M o h a m e d a n), Francis (Rahmatganj)

Iran survive

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But it was half-time substitute Kazemian who snatched it for Iran, running on to Andranik Teymourian's through-ball and finishing coolly with his right foot on 77 minutes.

Iran are bidding to break a 31-year title drought after winning three in a row from 1968-1976. They have not made the final since despite reaching the last four on five separate occasions.

Uzbekistan were quarterfinalists in 2004 and narrowly missed out on qualifying for last year's World Cup. The Central Asian team's finest moment was winning the Asian Games title on debut in 1994.

WC profits will erase WICB deficit

Cricket

AFP, London

Profits from this year's World Cup in the Caribbean will eliminate the financial deficit of the West Indies Cricket Board (WICB), organisers said in a statement released Tuesday.

In April, WICB president Ken Gordon said the 15 million dollars deficit was hampering plans to launch a long-awaited regional development plan.

However, with 32 million dollars earned in ticket revenue alone, Gordon -- who will not be seeking re-election when his term as presi-

dent ends later this month -- said in a statement released after a board meeting in Kingston, Jamaica on Friday, that tournament profits would erase the shortfall.

"We sold more tickets (672,000) than the last two cricket world cups in South Africa (625,000) and England (476,000) and garnered 32 million dollars in ticket revenue which the ICC (International Cricket Council) has told us is the highest gate ever.

"The profit from the event will also eliminate the deficit of the WICB and this augurs well for the future of West Indies cricket," he added.

However, there were criticisms of the ninth Cricket World Cup, the first staged in the Caribbean, with

some local fans unhappy with the price of match tickets and overseas cricket followers taken aback by vastly-inflated hotel prices across the region.

The tournament was overshadowed early on by the death of Pakistan coach and former England player Bob Woolmer.

Then came the bungled end to the April 28 final. Australia beat Sri Lanka at Barbados's Kensington Oval but only after match officials, fearful of having to use the reserve day, insisted the game be completed in pitch black darkness having forgotten a standard playing condition which says a result can be declared following 20 overs in the second innings.

Morris could be new ECB boss

Cricket

CRICINFO, undated

The England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) could become the first British sports governing body to elect a black chairman if, as expected, Bill Morris, the former leader of the Transport and General Workers Union (TGWU), announces his intention to stand as David Morgan's successor.

Lord Morris, 68, was born in Jamaica but moved to Britain as a 16-year-old. As a self-confessed "cricket nut", he has served for three years as a non-executive member of the ECB management board, during which time he has worked hard on the Chance to Shine initiative which is attempting to rebuild the connection between schools and local cricket clubs.

Morris led the TGWU from 1991 to 2003 and has since served on a number of national bodies. He was appointed as a non-executive director of the

Bank of England in 1998, and was a member of the Royal Commission for the Reform of the House of Lords from 1999 to 2000 -- a good training ground for dealing with the backwoods-men of the ECB.

Morris himself has been coy about his intentions, and last week said: "We have an able and competent board and any of the members would make an admirable successor to David Morgan, who will be a hard act to follow."

But he is widely regarded as the most palatable choice, especially as several of his fellow board members are perceived to have maverick tendencies.

Giles Clarke, the Somerset chairman, is among the frontrunners for the role, although he remains unforgiven by many for playing a key role in brokering the deal that removed live Test cricket from terrestrial television. Meanwhile Rod Bransgrove at Hampshire has been outspoken in his attempts to bring Test cricket to the Rose

Bowl. Two other candidates are expected to be the Surrey chairman, Mike Soper, and the former chief executive at Warwickshire, Dennis Amiss.

The ECB chairman will be elected by the 18 first-class counties as well as the MCC. Nominations close on July 23, the ballot will take place on August 13, and the new chairman will be officially confirmed on August 28.

West Ham not giving in

AFP, London

West Ham United have rejected a bid by want-away striker Carlos Tevez to cancel his contract with the London club as he tries to move to Premiership champions Manchester United.

Tevez wants to try to re-start his transfer to Old Trafford by using a similar method to that which saw fellow Argentinian Javier Mascherano leave the Hammers for Liverpool last season.

In order for that to happen both West Ham and the Premier League would have to cancel his registration. However, this has yet to happen and world governing body FIFA could yet be called in to break the impasse.

A West Ham spokesman Wednesday referred reporters to last Friday's statement by club chairman Eggert Magnusson, which stated: Carlos Tevez is a registered West Ham player, contracted to the club until June 2010. There is no agreement with West Ham for Carlos Tevez to leave the club."

Sultan ready

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which expired last April, was given the responsibility by the FIFA and AFC to amend its constitution according to FIFA statutes before holding an election. The incumbent BFF executive committee was given a maximum time of one year to complete the job.

The Sports Adviser in his recent speeches mentioned that he is eager to get rid of corruption in sports and hoped to remodel the federations that have failed to deliver the goods.



PHOTO: AFP

South Korea's Choi Sung-kuk Choi (R) shoots from the penalty spot to score against Saudi Arabia during their Asian Cup Group D match at the Bung Karno Stadium in Jakarta on Wednesday. The match was stopped, with the score at 1-1, due to light failure and when it resumed, the scoreline remained the same.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

44 Tums target

1 "Monty Python" opener

4 Returned Arizona city

12 Regret

13 Lotion additive

14 Eastern potentate

15 \$ dispenser

16 John Hancock

18 Resigns

20 Dead heat

21 "Dragnet" star

24 Perch

28 Green

32 A bit blue

33 Volente

34 Eat loudly

36 WWII general

37 Many millennia

39 Bond

41 Anticipate

43 Staff member

DOWN

3 Big rig

4 Some hounds

5 -- Baba site

6 Gear tooth

7 Super-man's alter ego

8 Shower component

9 Ostrich's cousin

10 Round Table address

11 Exist

17 Melody

19 Airline letters

22 Wall

2 Frill for Street optimist

49 Carry Shriner's chapeau

51 Multi-purpose truck

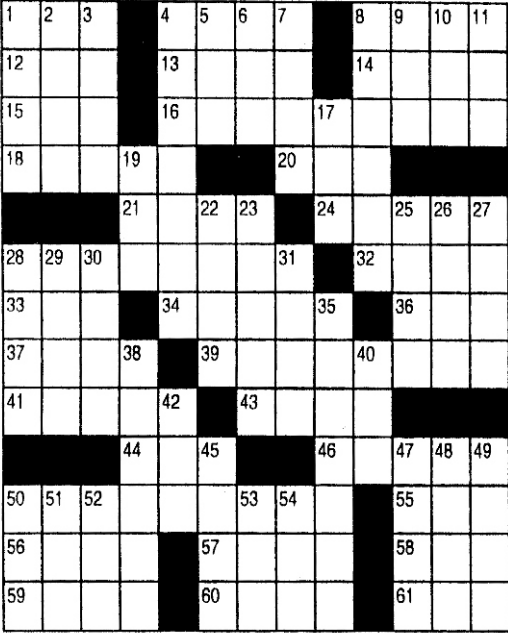
52 Geneti-cist's abbr.

53 Faraway craft

54 Uncivilized

Solution time: 21 mins.

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E	R	I	E	A	I	D	E	I	D
B	A	N	D	I	C	O	O	T	G
A	M	E	N	R	A	G	E	D	
T	W	E	R	P		D	O	R	A
E	E	L	S	F	L	O	T	I	L
A	L	I		B	E	E	C	H	O
S	T	I	N		L	E	N	I	S
U	R	A		G	E	T	U	P	
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CRYPTOQUIP

UGZCDM OKLKDYQE JYGOYKW

BD UKO NCLRKO TGJRKY

IOBVKLY, JUK OKIBOYKW

"NKGZK BDQE VFJY TKMFD."

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN YOU GREET SONGWRITER ARLEN ENTHUSIASTICALLY, ONE COULD SUPPOSE THAT YOU HERALD HAROLD.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: B equals O