

Mashrafe joins boot camp

SPORTS REPORTER

Vice captain Mashrafe Bin Mortaza joined the commando training at the warfare wing of the Bangladesh Army's School of Infantry and Tactics (SI&T) in Sylhet on Tuesday after returning from India where he was on a personal visit.

He began his stint in Sylhet on a day when Bangladesh spent their fourth day in extensive training. The Tigers had a 10km run and demonstration on rappelling, sliding, swimming and hallow casting.

Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) President Maj Gen Sina Ibn Jamali visited the Jalalabad Cantonment to witness some of the sessions. The BCB boss also joined the national cricketers at lunch.

The Tigers will spend two more days at the SI&T before returning to the capital.

On completion of training in Sylhet, the cricketers will take part in training in Dhaka with interim coach Shaun Williams in charge.

Bangladesh are placed in Group A in the first-ever Twenty20 World Championships with South Africa and West Indies.

Sarwan returns to lead WI

BBC ONLINE, undated

The West Indies selectors have recalled left-arm fast bowler Pedro Collins for their Twenty20 World Cup squad.

The 31-year-old Collins received the news just after returning to Barbados from a pro contract in Newcastle.

He said: "My recall was long overdue. I was being overlooked and I was wondering why. I'm delighted to be back in the team and have a point to prove."

Left-handed batsman Narsingh Deonarine, who last played two years ago in Sri Lanka, was also recalled.

The team will be led Ramnareesh Sarwan, who has recovered from a shoulder injury sustained on the recent tour of England.

The West Indies begin the tournament against hosts South Africa at the Wanderers on 11 September.



LONG OVERDUE: India celebrate after winning the three-match Test series against England 1-0 at The Oval in London on Monday.

PHOTO: AFP

After 21 years...

India clinch series 1-0

Cricket

AFP, London

India claimed a Test series in England for only the third time when they completed a 1-0 victory after the third and final Test at The Oval was drawn here on Monday.

England, set 500 to win, a target way in excess of the Test record fourth innings winning score of 418 for seven made by the West Indies against Australia in Antigua in 2003, finished on 369 for six.

Matt Prior was 12 not out and Ryan Sidebottom three not out while Kevin Pietersen top-scored with 101.

Rahul Dravid's men, ahead after a seven-wicket win at Trent Bridge followed a gutsy draw at Lord's, emulated the 1971 and 1986 teams by winning a series in England for only the third time in 15 tours dating back 75 years.

For England the draw meant the end of a six-year unbeaten run in home Test series, encompassing eight wins and three draws in 11 campaigns, since they lost the 2001 Ashes to Australia.

England captain Michael Vaughan said: "Full credit to India

they really put us under pressure from the first session.

England, at tea, were 232 for three, needing an improbable further 268 for victory.

But the first ball with the new ball saw Paul Collingwood lbw for 40 to fast bowler Shanthakumaran Sreesanth.

South Africa-born Pietersen's drive through mid-wicket off Sreesanth saw him to a 155-ball century with his 18th four, his 10th hundred in 30 Tests.

But four balls later Pietersen's loose drive off the paceman was caught at first slip by Dinesh Karthik.

It looked as if England's last two specialist batsmen would bat out the day but Ian Bell, after a run-a-ball fifty, was lbw for 67 on the sweep to leg-spinner Anil Kumble, a thorn in his opponents' side throughout this match.

England now had to survive at least 28 balls with just four wickets standing but Sidebottom held firm.

Sreesanth had earlier dismissed England captain Michael Vaughan for 42.

Vaughan was caught behind by wicketkeeper Mahendra Singh Dhoni after flashing outside off-stump.

Pietersen, before tea, exchanged angry words with Kumble after the bowler believed the non-striker had impeded him as he tried to field.

England resumed on Monday on 56 without loss. Andrew Strauss was 23 not out and left-handed opener Alastair Cook 27 not out.

Left-arm quick Rudra Pratap Singh struck with his fourth ball when Strauss, without a Test hundred for over a year, edged to second slip on 32.

Kumble then removed Cook on 43, when a genuine glance was well caught low down by VVS Laxman at short backward square-leg.

India had all but ensured against defeat with a first innings 664 - their record Test total against England - which included Kumble's unbeaten 110, his maiden century in his 118 Tests.

Kumble then became Test cricket's third most successful bowler outright, overtaking retired Australia quick Glenn McGrath's mark of 563 wickets, when he had Monty Panesar lbw to end England's first innings on 345 all out.

Dravid, who opted not to enforce the follow-on, declared India's second innings on 180 for six.

England and India meet again in the first of seven one-day internationals, at the Rose Bowl, on August 21.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at stumps on the fifth day of the third and final Test between England and India at The Oval on Monday:

INDIA: First innings 664 (Kumble 110 not out, Dhoni 92, Karthik 91, Tendulkar 82, Dravid 55, Laxman 51; Anderson 4-182)

ENGLAND: First innings 345 (Bell 63, Collingwood 62, Cook 61; Zaheer Khan 3-32, Kumble 3-94)

INDIA: Second innings 180-6 declared (Ganguly 57)

ENGLAND: Second innings (over-night 56-0)

Strauss c Laxman b RP Singh 32
Cook c Laxman b Kumble 43
Vaughan c Dhoni b Sreesanth 42
Pietersen c Karthik b Sreesanth 101
Collingwood lbw b Sreesanth 40
Bell lbw b Kumble 67
Prior not out 12
Sidebottom not out 3
Extras: (b-2, lb-4, w-9, nb-14) 29
Total: (For 6 wickets in 110 overs) 369
Fall of wickets: 1-79, 2-86, 3-152, 4-266, 5-289, 6-363.

Did not bat: Tremlett, Panesar, Anderson.

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NSC appoints ad-hoc bodies in three feds

SPORTS REPORTER

The National Sports Association (NSC) yesterday dissolved elected executive committees of Bangladesh Amateur Athletics Federation (BAAF) and Bangladesh Swimming Federation (BSF) and replaced the ad-hoc body of the Bangladesh Basketball Federation (BBF).

The NSC formed three ad-hoc committees for the federations under the 20 A section of the NSC act (amendment) 1974.

The NSC, which retained the presidents of all three bodies, appointed 23-member committees for each of the swimming and athletic federations while a 26-member body for the basketball federation, confirmed three separate circulars.

An ad-hoc committee was running the BBF for more than five years while controversial organisers ran the other two federations.

With this move, Sports Adviser Tapan Chowdhury kept his promise to quash politicised sport bodies.

Former chairman of the Navy Sports Council Commodore (ret) MA Kabir replaced Dewan Aminul Haq Sajal - known as a 'forum leader' as BSF general secretary while BAAF's 'Forum'-backed secretary Ali Imam Tapan makes

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Killing time not good

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

Former Bangladesh captain Habibur Bashar is going through a long lay-off with no cricket for him in the near future as there is no domestic competition at the moment and the next international schedule is in New Zealand in December.

But it seems not at all a good break for Bashar and his other colleagues, who are under the payroll of the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB), in absence of action.

Currently, only nine contracted players out of 21 are taking part in the training programme to prepare for the upcoming ICC Twenty20 World Championship in South Africa.

"For the first time in my career I have been enjoying such a long break from cricket. But in the end it would not be good for us. Most of the players who are now out of the national camp are eagerly waiting to return," said Bashar.

"I think it would be nice for us if the board arranged a programme next month," he urged.

The most important thing is that

Uganda enter Kenyan T20 meet

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) on Tuesday released the official schedule for the national team's tour of Kenya in the first week of September prior to ICC Twenty20 World Championship.

ICC associate members Uganda were drafted in the last moment to make it a four-nation Twenty20 league, also involving Pakistan and hosts Kenya.

Mohammad Ashraf's men will reach Nairobi on August 29 and they open their campaign against Kenya on September 1.

The Tigers will leave Nairobi on September 6 for Johannesburg to take part in the Twenty20 event. Bangladesh will play their first Group A match against the West Indies on September 13 and their last match against hosts South Africa on September 15.

ITINERARY

- Sept 1:** Pakistan v Uganda
Bangladesh v Kenya
- Sept 2:** Kenya v Uganda
Bangladesh v Pakistan
- Sept 4:** Bangladesh v Uganda
Pakistan v Kenya

Rajib shares lead in Abu Dhabi chess

UNB, Dhaka

Bangladeshi International Master Enamul Hossain Rajib shared lead with seven other players after the second round of the 17th Abu Dhabi International Chess Festival in Abu Dhabi, UAE on Monday.

Rajib secured maximum two points after beating the highest rated player of the tournament GM Jovaba Baadur of Georgia.

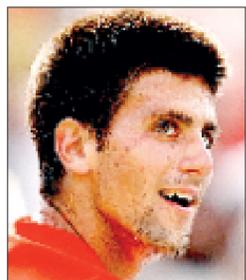
Some 70 players from 22 countries including 23 Grandmasters, 11 International Masters and five Women Grandmasters are participating in the meet.

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Did U Know?

Judo was first included as an Olympic sport for male athletes in the 1964 Games in Tokyo. Female athletes however had to wait until 1992.



Novak Djokovic

(Serbian tennis star)
"This is the best day of my career. I won a major in Miami (the Masters Cup), but to beat the first and second of the world is unbelievable." After beating Roger Federer in the final and Rafael Nadal in the semifinal of the Montreal

What to WATCH

ESPN

Sportscenter India
Sports News
Live from 8:30 pm
English Premier League
Portsmouth v Manchester United
Live from 12:30 am (Thursday)

STAR Sports

English Premier League
Reading v Chelsea
Live from 12:55 am (Thursday)

Kallis quits as deputy

Cricket

AFP, Cape Town

South African cricket authorities on Tuesday said it hoped star all-rounder Jacques Kallis would withdraw his resignation as vice-captain of the national team.

Kallis rocked South African cricket by announcing his resignation two days after he was left out of his country's team for next month's ICC World Twenty20 championship in South Africa.

Kallis told the Cape Times newspaper: "I have resigned as vice-captain and I'm considering my options with regard to the rest of my career."

Cricket South Africa (CSA) chief executive Gerald Majola said in a statement that Kallis had telephoned him Monday to say he was resigning as vice-captain.

"I said we all understood his disappointment, and appealed to him not to resign while in an emotional state but to rather meet with CSA to discuss the matter fully so

that we could deal with all the issues at hand.

"It is most disappointing therefore that Jacques took a unilateral decision after speaking to me to publicly announce his resignation as vice-captain."

Majola said Kallis's actions were regrettable in view of a recent agreement between CSA and the South African Cricketers' Association which outlined the way issues involving players should be dealt with.

"Jacques is employed by CSA, and we expected him at least to sit down at a meeting and go through the matter before he made his own decision to make a public announcement.

"The reasons for his omission from the squad were fully explained to him as well as the prominent role he will play in a very full and varied season after the tournament.

"CSA hopes that Jacques will reconsider his decision because we believe that he has much to offer as vice-captain and has been a stalwart on the field for South African cricket for more than a decade.

"I do not want to get into a public debate on this issue, and will seek again a meeting with Jacques to discuss the matter fully with him and will ask him to reconsider his decision to resign as vice-captain," said Majola.

Kallis, 31, has been South Africa's outstanding player of the past decade. He has played in 107 Tests and 261 one-day internationals and

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India take 3rd place

AFP, London

India's 1-0 series win over England saw them move up two places into third spot in the latest edition Tuesday of the International Cricket Council (ICC) Test Championship table.

Rahul Dravid's side sealed what was only India's third Test series win in England with a draw at The Oval here Monday and are now just four points behind their second-placed hosts.

India's success in the three-match series earned them five rating points and saw them go above both South Africa and Sri Lanka.

England dropped four points following their first home series loss since the 4-1 defeat against Australia in 2001.

But had India won at The Oval, they would have gone level on rating points with England who saw the gap between them and table-toppers Australia lengthen from 26 to 30 points as a result of the outcome of this series.

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Big guns get ready



The best cricketers in the world are gearing up for the inaugural ICC World Twenty20 with all 12 squads now having been confirmed.

The South African cities of Johannesburg, Durban and Cape Town will be the venues for this intensive two-week event and a host of top players from all over the globe are chomping at the bit to get stuck in.

The likes of Adam Gilchrist, Mahendra Singh Dhoni, Jacob Oram, Shahid Afridi, Muttiah Muralidaran, AB de Villiers, Chris Gayle, Tamim Iqbal, Kevin Pietersen and Tatenda Taibu will all be there from each of the ten Full Members while players of the calibre of Steve Tikolo and Ryan Watson will be among those representing the world of Associate cricket.

As well as the top ten teams, which qualified automatically, Kenya and Scotland got to this stage having made it to the final of the ICC World Cricket League Division 1, held in Nairobi in February.

The ICC World Twenty20 will take place from 11 to 24 September and will involve 12 teams, 27 matches, three venues and countless thrills.

Some tickets are still available by clicking on <http://www.icc-cricket.com> and following the link. For more information about the ICC World Twenty20 go to: <http://www.icc-cricket.com/icc/events/twenty20/>

SQUADS

Australia: Ricky Ponting (captain), Nathan Bracken, Stuart Clark, Michael Clarke, Adam Gilchrist, Brad Haddin, Matthew Hayden, Brad Hodge, Bradley Hogg, Michael Hussey, Mitchell Johnson, Brett Lee, Andrew Symonds, Shaun Tait, Shane Watson.

Bangladesh: Mohammad Ashraf (captain), Aftab Ahmed, Nadif Chowdhury, Shakib Hasan, Tamim Iqbal, Alok Kapali, Mashrafe Mortaza, Mushfiqur Rahim, Ziaur Rahman, Syed Rassel, Abdur Razzak, Farhad Reza, Zunaed Siddique, Nazim Uddin, Mahmud Ullah.

England: Paul Collingwood (captain), Ravi Bopara, Stuart Broad, Andrew Flintoff, James Kirtley, Darren Maddy, Kevin Pietersen,

Matt Prior, Chris Schofield, Owais Shah, Ryan Sidebottom, Jeremy Snape, Vikram Solanki, Chris Tremlett, Luke Wright.

India: Mahendra Singh Dhoni (captain), Ajit Agarkar, Piyush Chawla, Gautam Gambhir, Dinesh Karthik, Irfan Pathan, Yusuf Pathan, Virender Sehwag, Joginder Sharma, Harbhajan Singh, Rohit Sharma, RP Singh, Yuvraj Singh, Shanthakumaran Sreesanth, Robin Uthappa.

Kenya: Steve Tikolo (captain), Rajesh Bhudria, Jimmy Kamande, Tanmay Mishra, Lameck Ngoche, Nehemiah Ngoche, Alex Obanda, Collins Obuya, David Obuya, Thomas Oduyo, Peter Ongondo, Elijah Otieno, Morris Ouma, Ondik Suji, Hiren Varaiya.

New Zealand: Daniel Vettori (captain), Shane Bond, Peter Fulton, Mark Gillespie, Gareth Hopkins, Chris Martin, Craig McMillan, Brendon McCullum, Nathan

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