

Shah Sports replaces Ihsan

SPORTS REPORTER
Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) has been confirmed Shah Sports as the national team's kit sponsor for next month's ICC Twenty20 World Championship.

Zia third in Malaysian Open

SPORTS REPORTER
Bangladeshi Grandmaster Ziaur Rahman finished third in the 4th Dato Ather Tan Malaysian Open Chess Championship which concluded yesterday in Kuala Lumpur.

3 share lead in Asian Zonal Chess

SPORTS REPORTER
Indian International Masters GN Gopal and Sujarjit Saha and Pakistan's Tunveer Gillani led the table of the Asian Zonal Chess Championship with three points each after conclusion of the fourth round yesterday.

Hockey team

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Thailand and Sri Lanka because our main target is to finish sixth," coach Mahabub Harun said yesterday.

Bangladesh will play only one practice match against Pakistan on Tuesday.

SQUAD
Issa Miah (captain), Zahid Hossain (vice-captain), Mahububul Shahid, Mamunur Rahman, Yamin Hossain, Shamsuddin, Mustafizur Rahman, Imran Hossain, Tabib A Noor, Khandaker Hasan Ahmed, Shahidullah, Qamruzzaman, Rahul Kanti Roy, Mosharraf Hossain, Russell Mahmud, Zahidul Islam, Zahid Bin Talib and Iqbal Nader.

Last practice

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not salvaged Ashraf's XI to suffer a nine-run defeat in the first match.

SCORES IN BRIEF
GREEN: 134 for six in 20 overs (Tamim 27, Junaid 36, Aftab 27, Nadif 10, Mashrafe 7, Shakib 17, Razzak 2 not out, Sharif 1 not out, Forhad 2-26, Riyad 2-26, Kapali 2-23).

RED: 125 for six in 20 overs (Kapali 68, Nazimuddin 11, Ashraf 3, Riyad 10, Ziaur 1, Forhad 26, Mushfiqur 1 not out, Razzak 2-22, Sharif 2-24, Shakib 1-14). Result: Green won by 9 runs.

Game 2
RED: 54 for 4 in 9 overs (Ashraf 5, Nazimuddin 28 not out, Kapali 1, Riyad 10, Ziaur 7, Mushfiqur 2 not out; Mashrafe 1-17, Shathil 2-24). Result: Match abandoned.



Did U Know?

The youngest women's singles champion in US Open history was Tracy Austin, who won it in 1979 at the age of 16 years and eight months.



AB de Villiers salutes his dressing-room after reaching a hundred during the third and final one-day international at the Harare Sports Club ground yesterday.

AB takes centre stage

Cricket
CRICINFO, undated

The best crowd of this short one-sided series, sipping their lager and working their grills on a lazy Sunday, witnessed two South Africans get into Twenty20 mode at the Harare Sports Club. Albie Morkel cashed in on the opportunity to bat at No. 3 with a career-best 97 and AB de Villiers helped himself to a second ODI century as the visitors posted 323 for 9.

His first six was a heave off Timycen Maruma rows back over long-on. Hamilton Masakadza's part-time offerings were carted back over his head, the best of which was a beauty over long-off. Prosper Uteya was then sent into the car park. The big screen at the ground flashed the 150-run partnership and Albie celebrated with a thumping six over long-on.

dred from 84 balls and he fell soon after, slogging Gary Brent down to long-on for 107. Zimbabwe struck back at the death, thanks to some good catches and poor shots, but South Africa will be very confident of sweeping the series.

SCOREBOARD
Scoreboard of the south Africa innings in the third and final one-day international against Zimbabwe at the Harare Sports Club on Sunday.

Arsenal break City

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Bolton lost their opening three games, but they produced a response inspired by two strikers desperate to leave.

West Ham and Wigan drew 1-1 at Upton Park. Wigan's Austria midfielder Paul Scharner scored a spectacular overhead kick 12 minutes from time but Lee Bowyer rescued a point for the hosts three minutes later with a cool finish.

win at fellow newly-promoted side Derby, who sunk to bottom of the table courtesy of two goals from Cameron Jerome either side of Matt Oakley's strike for the Rams.

Bayern blazing a trail

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The three points leaves them eighth and Stuttgart coach Armin Veh was just glad of the points.

place. Schneider's free-kick was deflected into the net by Karlsruhe defender Maik Franz for the first goal, before Manuel Friedrich made it 2-0 and then Greek striker Theofanis Gekas benefited from a Schneider pass as it finished 3-0.

Inter Milan kick-off off their title defence at the San Siro against Udinese as European champions AC Milan travel to promoted Genoa.

NSC chief mourns Aleem's death

UNB, Dhaka
National Sports Council (NSC) chairman and Army Chief General Moeen U Ahmed has deeply consoled the death of Kazi Abdul Aleem, country's renowned sports personality.

ICL's eyes on Bond

CRICINFO, undated
New Zealand fast bowler Shane Bond has been made a "staggering" offer by the Indian Cricket League, the Herald on Sunday has reported.

Three cheers for Perez

AFP, Osaka
Ecuador's Jefferson Perez bagged a hat-trick of 20 kilometre walk world titles Sunday as the countdown began to who will lay claim to be the fastest man on earth.

Changes satisfy Dravid

Cricket
CRICINFO, undated
The International Cricket Council's decision to modify the Powerplay rule, allowing a third fielder outside the 30-yard circle for a period of ten overs, will give teams more spin options, feels Rahul Dravid, the Indian captain.

overs. "Every one is bowling seam-up bowlers and there is no charm to the game. I must admit that it is really difficult to get through 20 overs of Powerplay with your spinners. I heard Daniel Vettori complaining about it and, as a captain, I've also felt it."

courage to bowl the spinners in the Powerplays a lot more. "As a captain I felt that you need to bring a bit of mystery element to it. Maybe we can bring spinners early on; maybe teams can play two spinners. I think that adds a bit more to the game other than having the same cricket. Now everyone is waiting for the 20 overs to get over to bring the spinners on."

Roger's money on Rafael

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in what's become a riveting rivalry. Their five-set epic at the All England Club in July is the type of match that hooks fans.

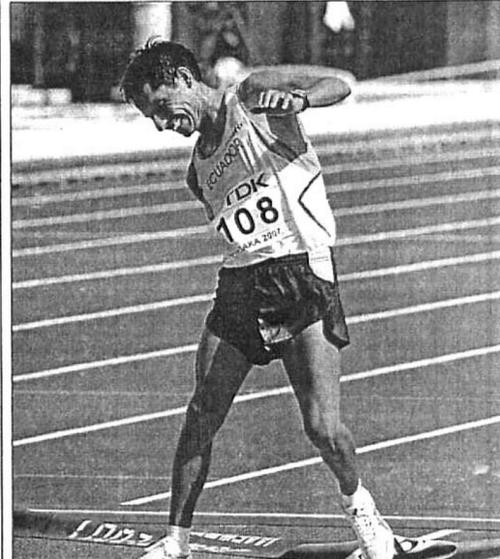
Slams; only John McEnroe and Jimmy Connors got to a fifth final faster. Even fellow pros recognise the importance of Federer-Nadal, aka Roger-Rafa, and the impact their matches can have on the sport's popularity.

Andy Roddick (2003) and Lleyton Hewitt (2001), along with 20-year-old Novak Djokovic, widely considered the tour's next star.

They've split the past 10 Grand Slam titles, and Federer has played in nine consecutive major finals, a record. Nadal already has reached five finals in his first 14 Grand

There are, to be sure, those who believe they can get in the way of yet another championship match between the top two. That would include past US Open winners

"I would pick Rafael Nadal. Yep, I pick him," Federer said, smiling. "If I would have to put my house on somebody else, yeah, I'd put it on Rafael."



Ecuador's Jefferson Perez struggles crossing the finish line during the 20km walk at the 11th IAAF World Athletics Championships in Osaka yesterday.

Football requires

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the difference. Not only camp, we need to play at least two international friendlies each month against better teams if we are to get a result in the SAFF Championship.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
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CRYPTOQUIP
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WFJXZYT XWHUFC, QNOYV
WZ BNUZE KWZ JHEM QFKW H
CFBM-H-KZCC LHKBW?
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: THE RAGWEED WAS UNCHARACTERISTICALLY SLUGGISH. IT ONLY RELEASED ITS POLLEN SPORE-ADICALLY.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Z equals E