



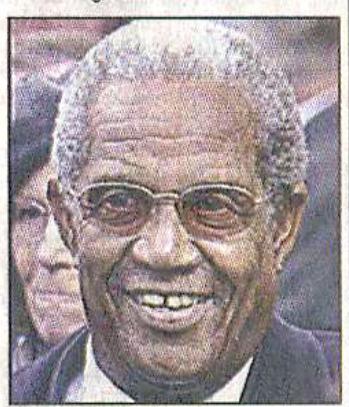
Did U Know?

Yuvraj Singh of India scored the fastest half-century in an innings in the just-concluded ICC World Twenty20 Championship in South Africa. He hammered 50 off just 12 balls against England.

1ST EVER FROM ALL CLEAR ANTI-DANDRUFF SHAMPOO JUST FOR MEN

CLEAR men NO DANDRUFF

TALK TURKEY



Sir Garfield Sobers

(West Indies cricket legend)
 "Players have to start thinking about the game as a team game and go out there and try and play the best for their team and forget self performances."

While criticising West Indies players' attitude.

What to WATCH

NEO Sports

India v Australia
 Second ODI:
 Live from 9:30am

TEN Sports

Pakistan v South Africa

First Test, Day Two

Live from 10:45am

ESPN

Sportscenter India
 Sports News
 Live at 8:30pm

STAR Sports

Special Olympics

Opening Ceremony

Live from 7:00pm

Special Olympics kicks off today

AFP, Shanghai

Shanghai kicks off the Special Olympics World Summer Games on Tuesday with a rousing opening ceremony to welcome a record 7,300 mentally disabled athletes to China's financial capital.

"All the preparations are completed and we are ready after five years of considerable preparations," Shanghai Vice Mayor Zhou Taotong told a press conference here on Monday.

Zhou, the vice chairman of the organising committee, said 7,300 athletes from 164 countries and regions, a record participation for the Games, would compete in 21 medal sports and four demonstration competitions.

The event begins with Tuesday's opening ceremony at the Shanghai Stadium, attended by the city's most famous sporting sons -- basketball icon Yao Ming, a Special Olympics ambassador, and Liu Xiang, the world and Olympic champion 110m hurdler.

Teams of athletes will march into the stadium to a theme song especially composed for the event by Chinese-American Tan Dun, composer of the Oscar-winning soundtrack for "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon."

Harder works for Bangladesh duo

Chess

SPORTS REPORTER

Youngster Enamul Hossain Rajib will join Grandmaster Ziaur Rahman in Bangladesh's squad for the World Cup Chess Championship to be held in Siberia next month.

Zia was given an automatic entry thanks to the World Chess Federation (FIDE) president's special consideration but Rajib, an International Master in line to become the country's fifth Grandmaster, did a commendable job by qualifying for the prestigious event.

Rajib, who has already earned two GM norms, finished tenth but unfortunately missed his third and final GM norm for just half a point in the VI Asian Individual Chess Championship featuring players from Asia and Australia.

Only the top ten players who took part in the 11-day meet that concluded at Cebu City in the Philippines on Saturday, booked their places in the first round of the World Cup, which begins on November 23. A total of 128 players will compete in the grand event.

Zia did not have to go through the pain of qualification but Rajib had already missed a chance at

home when he finished fifth in last month's Asian Zonal Chess Championship with only the champion getting a ticket to the Bangladesh Chess Federation.

Rousis, who has been taking care of ten top players, said he would give special attention to Zia and Rajib to prepare them for the World Cup.

"Not just because the standard of the tournament, the World Cup would be tough for the players as it would be very cold in Siberia -- well below zero -- in late November."

"According to rating, our players are expected to draw two of the top ten of the world, I guess it would be fifth or sixth. The difference is really big," he opined.

In the first round, two players face each other for two games with the winner moving ahead.

"My target would be to win at least one game out of total four so one of our players get the chance of a tie-breaking where players are time-bound and must think fast."

"I will concentrate on this area so Zia and Rajib may improve. This is an area where one can determine how good a player is," said Rousis, who trained the Bangladesh team during the 2001 and 2003 Chess Olympiads and expects to guide the players till January next year.

Farveez fires for SL

Cricket

AFP, Dambulla

Farveez Maharoof grabbed four big wickets as Sri Lanka posted an emphatic 119-run victory over England in the opening one-day international here on Monday.

The seamer dismissed Kevin Pietersen, Ian Bell and debutant Phil Mustard in his opening four overs as England were bowled out for 150 on a slow pitch in reply to Sri Lanka's 269-7 to concede a 1-0 lead in the five-match series.

Maharoof (4-31) then removed opener Alastair Cook, who top-scored with a defiant 46. Mustard (27), Ravi Bopara (27 not out) and Graeme Swann (24) were other batsmen to reach double-figures in a dismal batting performance.

Sri Lanka earlier rode on skipper Mahela Jayawardene's solid 66 to reach a challenging total after winning the toss before man-of-the-match Maharoof drove home the advantage with his disciplined opening spell.

"Our bowlers did a brilliant job. They got a few early wickets and that really put them under pressure. Maharoof showed what he is capable of doing," said Jayawardene.

"When we saw the wicket we knew we needed to be patient. We knew a total of 250-260 would be competitive."

England got off to a brisk start when Cook and Mustard put on 43

for the opening wicket, but lost their way under lights when Maharoof was pressed into the attack after seven overs.

Maharoof provided the breakthrough in his first over when he had Mustard caught by a diving Lasith Malinga at wide mid-off and then had Bell (nought) and Pietersen (one) caught behind to reduce the tourists to 60-3.

England could never recover from early blows, losing wickets at regular intervals before being dismissed in the 35th over.

But he fell just when he looked like dominating the attack, caught by Bopara at deep mid-wicket off left-arm seamer Sidebottom only one ball after being dropped by Anderson at mid-on.

"I was happy with the way we bowled. I think the total was gettable, but we lost wickets in the middle order and that cost us the match," said England skipper Paul Collingwood.

"Hopefully, we can improve and get a win next time."

Jayawardene earlier made a half-century just when England looked like restricting Sri Lanka to a modest total with their tight bowling.

The hosts made an impressive start when veteran Sanath Jayasuriya (41) and Upul Tharanga (40) added 71 for the opening wicket but they lost momentum in the middle overs.

Seamers Collingwood, Ryan Sidebottom and Stuart Broad grabbed two wickets apiece. Off-spinner Swann took one wicket in his first one-dayer in seven years.

Jayawardene held the innings together after the dismissals of Jayasuriya and Tharanga in a space of six overs. He added 71 for the

SEE PAGE 18 COL 4

50 overs)

Fall of wickets: 1-71, 2-95, 3-166, 4-225, 5-237, 6-240, 7-264.

Bowler O M R W

Anderson 8 0 47 0

Sidebottom 10 0 56 2

SEE PAGE 18 COL 5

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