

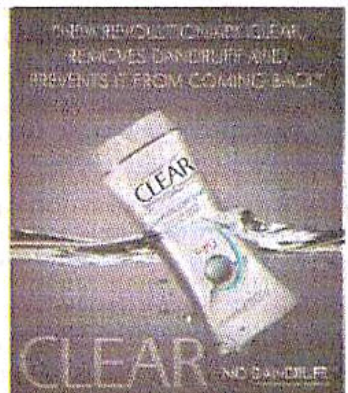
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Did U Know?

Taekwondo made its debut as an Olympic sport at the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney.



Frank Rijkaard
(Barcelona coach)
"He is a key player, capable of doing great things. It is a pleasure to watch him on the pitch."
About Lionel Messi.



TEN Sports
Pakistan v South Africa
Second Test, Day Three
Live from 10:45am
Sri Lanka v England
Fourth ODI
Live from 2:45pm
ESPN
Sportscenter India
Sports News
Live at 8:30pm

Booters get a break

The national footballers will go into a brief Eidul Fitr vacation from today after holding Tajikistan 1-1 in Monday's 2010 World Cup pre-qualifier at home.

The national team's scheduled training session yesterday afternoon was postponed due to inclement weather. They will resume training on October 15 at BKSP for the second leg match on October 28 in Tajik capital Dushanbe.

The Tajikistan team were due to fly home early this morning after their scheduled Gulf Air flight on Monday night was cancelled due to rainstorm.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS
Bangladesh win five more gold

UNB, Dhaka
Bangladesh won five gold medals at the Special Olympics World Summer Games in Shanghai yesterday.
According to a message from Special Olympic Federation, Bangladesh won athletics gold medals in 100m sprint and shot put, two in swimming (male and female) and one in badminton.
The federation, however, could not confirm identification of the winners.
Bangladesh have so far won 13 gold medals.
Meanwhile, Bangladesh will take on India in the cricket final today.

Roof collapses at BNS
Journalists escape catastrophe

SPORTS REPORTER
Nearly a hundred media men survived a close call on Monday as the roof of the press box at the Bangabandhu National Stadium came off a few hours after the 2010 World Cup pre-qualifier between Bangladesh and Tajikistan.
The entire hanging roof, which was hastily built last year as part of the venue's renovation for the AFC Challenge Cup in Dhaka, collapsed during a rainstorm after 9pm.
Fortunately, there was no one there at the time.
Had it been a night match and started around regulation 7pm, the journalists covering the match would have been a part of a great tragedy for sure.
The roof, which was hung by bars, could not hold the load of rainwater as the drainage system apparently did not work.
It can be noted the journalists were working there late night just a month earlier to cover a fund-raising exhibition match between retired footballers and film stars.
Any one visiting the site yesterday could realise the power of devastation: all the three commentary boxes and the stretched seating arrangement for reporters were totally smashed by the weight of the concrete.
Even during the AFC Cup in April 2006, water leaked through the roof but the authority did not give ear to the complaints.
The National Sports Council (NSC), owner of the number one

national stadium, formed a three-member inquiry committee headed by its director planning Abdur Rahman.
Rahman and two engineers, who visited the site, have been told to submit their report by 24 hours.
"The structure was hung by bars and in time, the welding snapped due to storage of water. It seems to be the reason behind the collapse," told NSC secretary Aminul Islam Khan.
"It would have been one of the worst disasters in the country had there been any people there at the time. We have already sent letters to builders Shahidullah Associates and consultants BRTC, a division of BUET.
"The inquiry committee has been given 24 hours but we are expecting the report on Thursday morning as tomorrow is a public holiday," Aminul added.
SM Shahidullah, managing director of Shahidullah Associates and a Workers Party member, admitted that it was their fault.
"We have to take responsibility of the accident. But it also has to be found out why it happened," asked Shahidullah.
"The roof was flooded with rainwater because the drainage system, perhaps, was non-working due to lack of maintenance. We have to investigate whether it was regularly cleaned or not. Maintenance is NSC's job, not ours."
"Fourteen-inch of water gathered over the roof so it could not



IMAGINE HAD IT COLLAPSED A FEW HOURS AGO: A street urchin playfully walks on the collapsed roof of the press box at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday. Thankfully the roof fell a couple of hours after the World Cup pre-qualifying match between Bangladesh and Tajikistan on Monday night, avoiding a possible human disaster.

Pakistan lose upper hand

Cricket
AFP, Lahore
South Africa took a grip on the second Test on day two here Tuesday after Pakistan squandered their solid start by quickly losing a string of wickets.
Pakistan were precariously placed at 140-4 when bad light stopped play eight overs before schedule in reply to South Africa's first innings total of 357 on a day of fluctuating fortunes at the Gaddafi Stadium.
Inzamam-ul-Haq was given a guard of honour by the South Africans as he came onto the ground to bat in his final Test before retirement.
The 37-year-old former skipper was unbeaten on 10 with Misbah-ul-Haq who was also on 10.

South African coach Mickey Arthur said his team were in a "solid situation" after winning the first Test in Karachi by 160 runs in the two-match series.
"I certainly wouldn't say the series is wrapped up but we did the right things," he said.
Arthur said veteran Inzamam deserved a good send-off for his farewell Test.
"The boys did talk about that in the dressing room, but when Inzy came out it was a spontaneous action and I am proud of my players," said Arthur of their guard of honour for the batsman.
Salman Butt (40) and Kamran Akmal (52) gave Pakistan a confident start of 90 before the home team lost three wickets in the space of just nine runs.
Butt looked in great touch but failed to keep a sweep down and was caught by Graeme Smith off

Ireland due next March

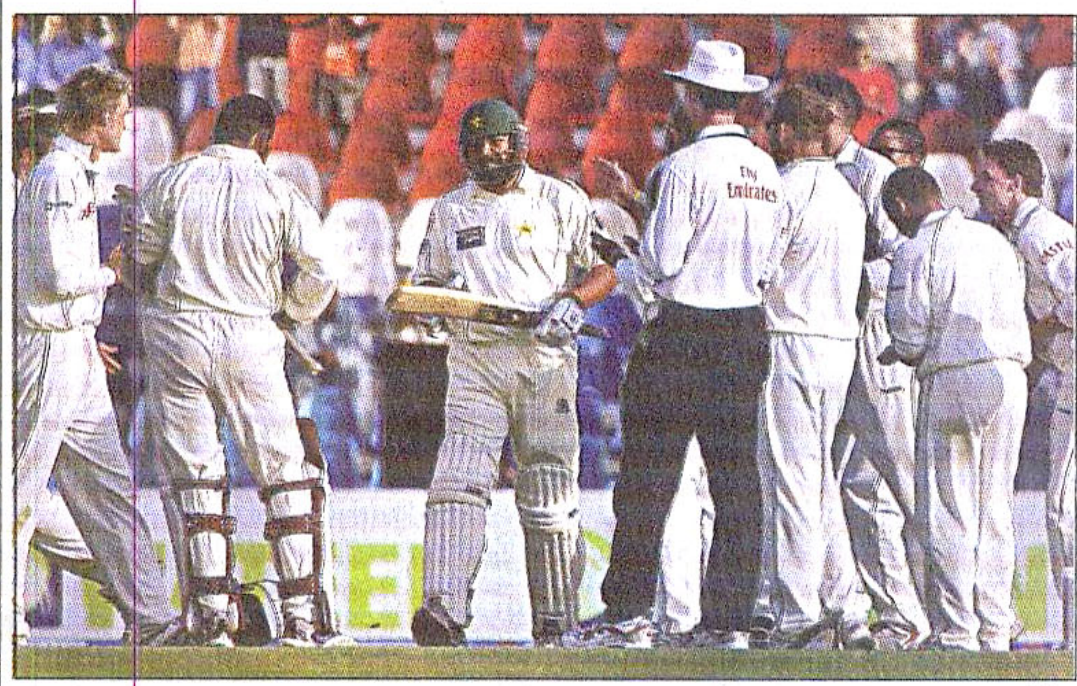
SPORTS REPORTER
Ireland, surprise package at World Cup 2007 in West Indies, will travel to Bangladesh for the first time, early next year.
They will play three one-day internationals against the Tigers in the middle of March. The Irish are also expected to play two longer-version matches but an opponent or duration is still undecided.
After their away series in New Zealand in December-January, Bangladesh will take on South Africa at home before the three ODIs against Ireland.
It will be a good chance for the Tigers to take revenge for their loss in the World Cup back in May this year. Ireland won the Super Eights match by 74 runs.
Meanwhile, a seven-member Bangladesh six-a-side team will be selected to take part in the Cathay Pacific/Standard Chartered Hong Kong Sixes, which will be held at the Kowloon Cricket Club on October 27 and 28.
Some local big-hitters will be picked alongside national players for the tournament, where the Tigers are regulars.
Bangladesh will join hosts Hong Kong, England, Australia, India, Pakistan, New Zealand, West Indies, Sri Lanka, South Africa and an All-Star team that includes Shane Warne and Brian Lara.

New payroll not before 2 months

Cricket
SPORTS REPORTER
Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) has extended the national players' current contract by two months with a plan to review the payment structure after watching their performance in the National Cricket League.
BCB's Cricket Operations Committee has taken this decision in its meeting yesterday at the board's management office in Gulshan.
"You know the contracts expired on September 30, but we have decided to extend it by two months because we would like to take into account some matters before we reward the new con-

SA announce ODI squad

AFP, Lahore
South Africa Tuesday made four changes to their Test squad for the five-match one-day series against Pakistan starting later this month.
Ashwell Prince, Hashim Amla, Dale Steyn and Paul Harris will return home to make way for vice-captain Justin Kemp, Albie Morkel, Johan Botha and Charl Langeveldt after the two-Test series that finishes here on Friday.
The first of the five one-day matches will be played here on October 18. The second match will also be played in Lahore two days later.
TEAM
Graeme Smith (captain), Justin Kemp (vice-captain), Mark Boucher, AB de Villiers, Jean-Paul Duminy, Herschelle Gibbs, Albie Morkel, Jacques Kallis, Andre Nel, Makhaya Ntini, Shaun Pollock, Vernon Philander, Johan Botha, Charl Langeveldt.



THE BIG MAN ARRIVES: South African players and match umpires receive Pakistan great Inzamam-ul-Haq at the crease with a guard of honour during the second day of the final Test at the Gaddafi Stadium in Lahore on Tuesday.

Patience pays off

Cricket
CRICINFO, undated
A sigh of relief rose from the stands in the Sector 16 Stadium once Mahendra Singh Dhoni won the toss on Monday morning. Finally India could bat first and try and put Australia on the difficult end of a 300-plus run-chase. An hour later, though, those hopes were fading as Brett Lee and his fellow fast bowlers put on a spell that made Sachin Tendulkar look thoroughly inept at the crease and the scoring rate resemble the first hour of a Test

match.
In truth, that 91-run opening stand between Tendulkar and Sourav Ganguly, though slow and unattractive, was the most important factor for India's eventual victory. It saw off the threat posed by the new ball under difficult conditions and allowed the middle order to bat aggressively and score 179 off the last 25 overs, taking India to 291. In fact, on Monday was the seventh time in 87 ODIs that India managed to reach 150 against Australia without losing a second wicket.
Later, Dhoni -- man-of-the-match for his unbeaten 50 off 35 balls -- acknowledged the importance of the opening stand. "The credit goes to Sachin and Sourav," he said. "We were pretty slow but the Australians bowled well in suitable conditions. I think we scored 291 only because of that start. Initially we thought we wouldn't get 250 the way we were batting and the way the ball was moving."
The pitch certainly did plenty in the morning. There was considerable seam movement, the bounce was uneven and, most importantly, the Australian bowlers were accurate -- apart from an extraordinary

Yousuf paid for ICL snub

PTI, Lahore
Prolific batsman Mohammad Yousuf only agreed to make himself available for the Pakistan team once he was assured of financial compensation for cancelling his deal with the Indian Cricket League (ICL).
"Yousuf made it clear that he had signed up with the ICL as he was insecure about his future as a Pakistan cricketer and he was getting paid good money by the ICL," a source close to him said.
It was only reluctantly that Yousuf agreed to meet with the Pakistan Cricket Board Chairman Nasim Ashraf last month.
"It was only after the Board Chairman assured him he would be compensated for leaving the ICL contract and also promised him a better contract to play in the Indian Premier League that Yousuf agreed to make himself available for Pakistan," the source said.
Yousuf reportedly had signed a contract worth 250,000 dollars with the ICL for their first season with the league due to start in November this year.
"The position now is that Yousuf will be compensated for the money he lost due to breaking away from the ICL and also be paid for playing

SL won't risk Murali
England's chance to clinch series today

Cricket
AGENCIES, undated
Muttiah Muralidaran has been ruled out of the fourth one-day international against England, according to his manager, after failing to recover from his bicep injury. But despite talk that he will miss the whole series Muralidaran retains hope of appearing in the final match in Colombo.
Muralidaran hasn't played an ODI since the World Cup and picked up his injury playing for Lancashire against Kent in the County Championship in August, which ruled him out of the World Twenty20. Despite making progress, he is too valuable to Sri Lanka to be risked ahead of important Tests against Australia and then England in December.
"Murali will not be playing in the last two one-day internationals as he is still not 100% fit," said his manager Kushil Gunasekera. "He has just started to bowl two to three overs a day and is testing his injury out." However, if the series is tied at 2-2 there will be a temptation to field Muralidaran on Saturday.
"He wants to be very sure before he makes a decision with regards to playing and at this stage the one-day games against England are definitely out," added Gunasekera. "He is targeting the tour of Australia and at this rate we are very confident he will be at his peak level of fitness by that time."
Mahela Jayawardene, Sri Lanka captain, had hinted that they would show caution over



GIVING IT HIS ALL: England captain Paul Collingwood puts weight on his right shoulder as he bats in the nets at the R Premadasa Stadium in Colombo on Tuesday.