

LIPRO
Presents
HIMOINSA
DIESEL GENERATORS
FROM SPAIN
Lipro Energy Ltd.
Call: 8817147, 8817918, 8818082

Star SPORT

DHAKA MONDAY JANUARY 28, 2008, E-MAIL: sports@thedailystar.net

More Than Just A Job Site
চাকরি
chakri.com.bd
A Platform for Employers and Job Seekers, to Meet and Exchange Information.
SignUp Now!!
www.chakri.com.bd



Did U Know?

Jean Langenus of Belgium wore a suit jacket, golfing plus fours and a red striped tie when he refereed the 1930 FIFA World Cup final.



Ana Ivanovic
(Serbian tennis star)
"Of course I am disappointed but I feel I have plenty of Grand Slam finals ahead of me."
After losing to Maria Sharapova in the Australian Open final on Saturday.

What to WATCH
STAR Cricket
Australia v India
Fourth Test, Day Five
Live from 6:00am
ESPN
Sportscentre India
Sports News
Live at 8:30pm

Nepal U-19s play last match today

The Bangladesh Under-19 team will go for the series when they host the visiting Nepal Under-19s in the third and final limited-overs match at BKSP today.

The hosts lead 1-0 after a massive 111-run win in the first match as the second match was washed out.

The local boys will play their next series against the West Indies U-19s, who arrive in Dhaka tomorrow to play four one-dayers for preparation of the coming Under-19 Cricket World Cup in Malaysia.

Three matches will be held at the Shaheed Chandu Stadium in Bogra while the remaining one is expected to be played at the Fatullah Stadium.

Hansen to rule on Bhajji today

Justice John Hansen, who has been appointed Commissioner for Harbhajan Singh's appeal against a three-match ban, will spell out the procedure to be adopted in the case today.

Justice Hansen will address the media at the Adelaide Oval this morning where he would brief the media on the procedure. He, however, would not take any questions at the briefing, according to an ICC statement here on Sunday.

The hearing will take place on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Justice Hansen is a High Court Judge and New Zealand Cricket's appointment on the ICC Code of Conduct Commission.

Match Referee Mike Procter found Harbhajan guilty of making a racist remark to Australia all-rounder Andrew Symonds during the second Test at Sydney.

The on-field umpires Steve Bucknor and Mark Benson laid the charge against Harbhajan after the close of play on day three of the second Test, following a complaint from the Australia captain Ricky Ponting. Harbhajan pleaded not guilty to the charge in the January 6 hearing but Procter imposed a ban of three

SEE PAGE 18 COL 1

Tigers in a limbo

Cricket
SPORTS REPORTER

Former national skipper Habibul Bashar is yet to get any response from Premier League teams although the three-day inter-club player's transfer is knocking on the door.

The hitherto Mohammedan captain was not alone in facing the dilemma of confirming a team ahead of the bourse that begins on February 3, but most of his national pool colleagues are in a tight spot in the face of reluctant club officials.

"Nobody has communicated with me and as far as I know, it is almost similar for ninety per cent of the pool players. It's really surprising. What so far I have learned is that the clubs are not interested to pay money for the national players because of their international commitments," said a frustrated Bashar.

The experienced cricketer expressed dissatisfaction over the pool policy, which allows a club to buy a maximum of three players from the 21-member list pro-

vided by Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB).

"It was four last season and I can't understand why it has reduced this year. I personally believed that the figure should go to more than what it is now as only three to four clubs are going to spend money this season due to their financial crisis," he added.

The Premier League clubs said they are not ready to spend money for the national players when it is confirmed that they will get them only for the last few matches but national captain Mohammad Ashraful rubbished that claim.

The national players will miss the first few matches as they will be involved in a home series against South Africa, who arrive on February 14 to play three one-day internationals and two Tests.

"We could play only seven matches last season and it's nothing new that national players won't be available for all the matches. But surprisingly the issue has gathered pace this season," said Ashraful.

The Bangladesh captain was also taken aback by the whisper-

ing that some clubs are thinking of roping in the pool players on the basis of match-by-match payment.

"It's totally unacceptable because in the past we received full contract no matter how many matches we played. In one season, I played only four matches for Biman but I got the full amount," he added.

The ace batsman however is negotiating with a Motijheel-based club but was worried with his colleagues' fate.

"Everyone should realise that without national players the country's most prestigious competition will lose charm. So, showing reluctance towards the national players means you are going to spoil the attraction," he said.

Both believed that the financial crisis in emerging clubs like Old DOHS and Sonargaon Cricketers made things complicated this year.

And it seems likely that most of these pool players would have to settle for a payment that is half of the hefty amounts they have received in previous seasons.

Afridi propels Pakistan

Cricket
AFP, Multan

Shahid Afridi equalled the record for most sixes in a one-day career to guide Pakistan to a 37-run win over Zimbabwe in the third day-night international here on Sunday, clinching the series in the process.

Afridi smashed six sixes and two fours in his swashbuckling 52-ball 85 to help Pakistan post a fighting 272-9 before restricting the tourists to 235-7 in their 50 overs to take an unassailable 3-0 lead in the five-match series.

Afridi, who holds the world record for scoring the fastest one-day hundred -- off 37 balls against Sri Lanka at Nairobi in 1997 -- equalled Sri Lankan Sanath Jayasuriya's 245 sixes hit in 403 matches. This was Afridi's 252nd match.

Zimbabwe did put up a fight through Sean Williams (71) and Brendon Taylor (55), who shared a defiant 105-run stand for the fourth wicket, but they failed to meet the required run-rate.

Pakistan pacesman Sohail Tanveer had the tourists in trouble early as he dismissed Vusi Sibanda (56) and stand-in captain Hamilton Masakadza (10) before Tatenda Taibu (10) was run out.

Pakistan skipper Shoaib Malik had Taylor stumped, while Afridi accounted for Williams as both fell in the space of 11 runs. Elton Chigumbura remained not out on 42.

"It is good for our confidence. A win is a win whoever be the team, and it will give us confidence in our series against Australia," said Malik of Pakistan's next assignment, against the world champions at home in March-April.

Earlier, it was Afridi's bat which spoiled Tawanda Mupariwa's career best figures of 4-46. The 27-year-old Afridi added an invaluable 116 off just 90 balls for the sixth wicket with Misbah-ul-Haq (44) to lift Pakistan from 78-5 after they won the toss and batted.

Pakistan raced to 47 before opener Salman Butt (23) fell in the 15th over.

Mupariwa, drafted in as a replacement for captain Prosper Utseya, who was ruled out due to an ankle injury, trapped Younis Khan (10) leg-before wicket with his first delivery of the match.

With his first delivery of the next over, Mupariwa dismissed Nasir Jamshed (32), caught by Chamu Chibhabha at mid-wicket to leave Pakistan at 70-3. Jamshed hit three boundaries and a six off 49 deliveries.

Malik was run out for three, while Mohammad Yousuf made a laborious five off 26 balls before his innings ended when the impressive Mupariwa held a sharp return



BREAD AND BUTTER: Pakistan all-rounder Shahid Afridi launches one into orbit as Zimbabwe wicketkeeper Tatenda Taibu tries to locate the ball during the third one-day international at the Multan Cricket Stadium on Sunday.

Kallis keeps series home

Cricket
AGENCIES, undated

Jacques Kallis scored his 16th one-day century as South Africa wrapped up victory in their home series against West Indies with two matches to spare.

Kallis made 121 not out off 133 balls as South Africa won the third one-day international by seven wickets at St George's Park in Port Elizabeth on Sunday to lead the series 3-0.

He was well supported by Graeme Smith (56), who helped add 82 for the second wicket, and JP Duminy (36 not out).

Earlier, the visitors posted a total of 252 for 7, thanks mainly to 98 off 88 balls from Marlon Samuels, but it was not enough.

Samuels survived a controversial television umpiring decision and lifted the West Indies to a competitive total.

Samuels scored his runs off 88 balls after the tourists had won the toss.

He slammed seven fours and four sixes, enabling the West Indies to boost a flagging run rate and to score 91 runs off the last ten overs.

Samuels survived a chance to wicketkeeper Mark Boucher, standing up to Shaun Pollock, when he had 19. He also seemed lucky to survive an appeal for a catch behind by Boucher off fast bowler Dale Steyn when he had 37.

On-field umpire Daryl Harper referred the decision to television umpire Brian Jerling in line with a provision in the regulations that a review can be sought if there is a possibility of a "bump ball".

The replays showed the ball carried to Boucher after passing the bat but Jerling gave it not out which is provided for if it is clear to the third umpire that the ball did not hit the bat.

Although the replays were inconclusive it seemed likely that the ball had deflected off the bat.

Samuels, who made 94 and was man of the match when the West Indies won the first Test at the same venue last month, took full advantage.

He reached his half-century off 62 balls and then launched a savage assault on some wayward bowling on a good batting pitch.

Inexperienced batsmen Sewnarine Chattergoon (52) and Patrick Browne (35) provided a solid foundation for the innings, putting on 75 for the second wicket off 103 balls.

The left-handed Chattergoon, playing in his fifth one-day international, looked a capable, compact player in an 81-ball innings, hitting seven fours and a six.

Browne, who joined the tour as back-up wicketkeeper to Denesh Ramdin, was selected to make his international debut as a batsman in place of Shivnarine Chanderpaul, who had a knee injury.

The tourists were already without tour captain Chris Gayle, who returned home before the one-day series because of a broken thumb. Browne hit two sixes and two fours off 54 balls.

SCOREBOARD
Scoreboard of the third one-day
SEE PAGE 18 COL 8



FOLLOWING HAYDEN'S PATH: Australian centurions Ricky Ponting (R) and Michael Clarke add a single to their 210-run third wicket stand against India during Day Four of the fourth and final Test at Adelaide Oval on Sunday.

2ND INDO-BANGLA GAMES 'Preparation for reception satisfactory'

Cricket
SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Olympic Association (BOA) officials yesterday inspected the reception point of the Indian contingent in Bangladesh at Benapole, Jessore for the 2nd Indo-Bangladesh Bangla Games.

BOA vice-president and Games coordination committee chairman Mizanur Rahman Manu led the three-member team also involving BOA deputy secretary general and accommodation committee chairman Imtiaz Khan Babul and reception committee member secretary Rafiqul Islam Tipu.

During the visit, the delegation from Dhaka had discussions with Bangladesh Rifles and local Customs officials about the reception.

The trio later moved to Jessore to inspect the resting place for the visitors, who will have their lunch at a BDR rest house.

The team from West Bengal are due to cross the border on February 20 for the five-day Games starting two days later in Dhaka.

After BDR's inaugural reception at Benapole, the tourists will also be entertained similarly at Jessore, Magura, Fardpur, Rajbari and Manikganj on way to Dhaka. Respective district administrations and sports associations will accord the receptions.

Reception committee member secretary Rafiqul Islam Tipu told The Daily Star over phone from Jessore that they were satisfied with the preparation.

"It looks very good and we are sure the West Bengal team will enjoy their entry into Bangladesh. We will visit the rest of the venues tomorrow," Tipu said.

Meanwhile, BOA's acting secretary general Kutubuddin Ahmed will unveil the Games logo tomorrow at the National Sports Council.

The ceremonies committee will also visit the Bangabandhu National Stadium (BNS) -- venue of the opening ceremony -- on Wednesday.

Draw looms large

Cricket
AFP, Adelaide

Australian captain Ricky Ponting (BOA) officials yesterday inspected the reception point of the Indian contingent in Bangladesh at Benapole, Jessore for the 2nd Indo-Bangladesh Bangla Games.

BOA vice-president and Games coordination committee chairman Mizanur Rahman Manu led the three-member team also involving BOA deputy secretary general and accommodation committee chairman Imtiaz Khan Babul and reception committee member secretary Rafiqul Islam Tipu.

During the visit, the delegation from Dhaka had discussions with Bangladesh Rifles and local Customs officials about the reception.

The trio later moved to Jessore to inspect the resting place for the visitors, who will have their lunch at a BDR rest house.

The team from West Bengal are due to cross the border on February 20 for the five-day Games starting two days later in Dhaka.

After BDR's inaugural reception at Benapole, the tourists will also be entertained similarly at Jessore, Magura, Fardpur, Rajbari and Manikganj on way to Dhaka. Respective district administrations and sports associations will accord the receptions.

Reception committee member secretary Rafiqul Islam Tipu told The Daily Star over phone from Jessore that they were satisfied with the preparation.

"It looks very good and we are sure the West Bengal team will enjoy their entry into Bangladesh. We will visit the rest of the venues tomorrow," Tipu said.

Meanwhile, BOA's acting secretary general Kutubuddin Ahmed will unveil the Games logo tomorrow at the National Sports Council.

The ceremonies committee will also visit the Bangabandhu National Stadium (BNS) -- venue of the opening ceremony -- on Wednesday.

"Once the ball gets a bit softer it'll be hard for India to score and we'll get a bit of reverse swing with the quick bowlers and Brad Hogg, Andrew Symonds and hopefully myself can play a big part on Monday as well because there's just enough there for the spinners."

Indian seamer Irfan Pathan said they still believed they could level the series, which Australia lead 2-1.

"We have to bat well tomorrow (Monday) and if we put some runs on the board, Australia has to bat last and so many matches have changed on the last day," he said.

Having announced his retirement on Saturday, all eyes were on the new record holder for Test dismissals by a wicketkeeper when Gilchrist came out to bat, replacing Clarke (118) with Australia at 490 for five.

He received an enormous ovation as he strode out to the Adelaide Oval, the crowd chanting "Gilly" and the Indians lining up to applaud him.

"He has been a wonderful cricketer and we all respect him," Pathan said. "When he came out to bat we clapped for him to show that respect. He has actually changed Test cricket."

Gilchrist got off the mark from the fifth ball, with a crisp straight drive off Ishant Sharma.

The 36-year-old almost took out umpire Billy Bowden with a typically thundering straight drive for four off Pathan (3-112), but a moment later the bowler had his revenge when Gilchrist slashed a wide delivery straight to Sehwaag's cover.

The wicketkeeper had made just 14 from 18 balls in an all-too-brief glimpse of his batting genius, and again got a rousing ovation from the crowd and his opponents as he trudged off, with Sharma running up from fine leg to shake his hand before he left.

While Gilchrist left the crowd
SEE PAGE 18 COL 2

'Greatest of his kind'

Cricket
AFP, Adelaide

Tributes flowed from around the cricket world on Sunday for Australian wicketkeeper Adam Gilchrist who announced his retirement at the weekend.

After 96 Tests, 'Gilly' stunned the sport when he announced on Saturday evening that he would hang up his gloves after the upcoming triangular one-day series against Sri Lanka and India.

It also came a day after he became the new record holder for most dismissals by a wicketkeeper in Test cricket with 414.

The recurring theme from well-

wishers, including Prime Minister Kevin Rudd, was that the 36-year-old was one of the greats and had revolutionised the game, particularly the role of wicketkeeper-batsman.

With the bat Gilchrist averaged 47.60 in Tests, including 17 centuries, while he also clocked up 15 one-day hundreds.

Former Australian captain Kim Hughes compared him to batsman Sir Donald Bradman and champion leg-spinner Shane Warne, who are widely acknowledged as the greatest exponents of their crafts.

"He is the greatest wicketkeeper-batsman the game has ever seen. He changed the game. I have no doubt about that," Hughes told AFP.

"People will talk about him the way they talked about Bradman and compared batsmen to him by saying 'he's not as good as Bradman' and like Warne by saying 'he's not as good as Warne'."

"Wicketkeeper-batsmen will always be compared to Gilly and they will never be as good."

South African Mark Boucher, the man Gilchrist overtook for dismissals when he caught Anil Kumble on Friday, was another who said the Australian had raised the bar for wicketkeepers.

"He revolutionised the game in terms of being a wicketkeeper-batsman" Boucher told the Sun-Herald newspaper. "Gilly is streets ahead of the rest in that regard. He is the guy who set the tone for everyone else in the game, and he

SEE PAGE 18 COL 8

Fm 89.6
আজ দুপুর ২টা ১৫ মিনিটে
উপস্থাপনা : আবদুন নূর তুষার

এ সপ্তাহের বিষয়
গান

আপনার প্রশ্ন অথবা অনুভূতি জানিয়ে
SMS করুন ৮৯৬০ নম্বরে
(knn_question)
ইমেইল করুন :
knn@radiotodaydhaka.com
পোস্ট বক্স : ৯০২০, বনানী, ঢাকা
ফোন করুন : ০১৮৯২২৮৯৬০ (অনুষ্ঠান চলাকালীন)

অতিথি
সৈয়দ আব্দুল হাদী
radio
TODAY
Fm 89.6
The Station of the Nation