



Did U Know?

The first hat-trick in the FIFA World Cup history was shot by Guillermo Stabile of Argentina in a game against Mexico in 1930.



Shane Warne
(Australian spin legend)
"He is a competitor and is always up for a scrap, which I like, and I'm sure playing in the same side will be fun."
On Graeme Smith, who had a prickly on-field relationship before the leg-spinner's international retirement. Both will play for the Rajasthan Royals in IPL.

What to WATCH

ESPN
Sportscentre India
Sports News
Live from 8:30pm

SET Max
Indian Premier League
Rajasthan Royals v Kings XI Punjab
Live from 7:30pm

BRAC BANK HOCKEY Mohammedan, Sonali in semis

SPORTS REPORTER

Ariful Haque Prince led from the front to take Mohammedan Sporting Club into the semifinals of the Brac Bank Club Cup hockey tournament at the Maulana Bhasani National Stadium yesterday.

The experienced striker scored in each half as the popular Black and Whites defeated Mariner Youngs Club by 2-1 goals to secure their second win in three matches. The Motijheel outfit earlier shared points in their first Group A game against Sadharan Bima, but they still reached the semifinals as group champions.

On the other hand, Sonali Bank bounced back strongly from their defeat against Mohammedan in the previous match to book their seat in the semifinals from the same group when they outclassed Bima 6-1 in the day's first game at the same venue.

From Group B, Abahani and Usha Krira Chakra have already confirmed the semifinal berths and meet today in the last group match at 4pm.

Back to the day's match, a relatively young Mohammedan side

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A TWO WAY BATTLE: The combo picture shows Kazi Salahuddin (L-centre) leads his panel and Maj Gen (ret'd) Amin Ahmed Chowdhury (R-centre) is all smiles with his group while submitting their nomination papers for the April 28 elections of the Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) at the BFF Bhaban yesterday.

Same old Bangladesh

Cricket

AGENCIES, Karachi

Pakistan beat Bangladesh by 102 runs in the one-off Twenty20 international played at the National Stadium yesterday, the first-ever match of this kind staged in the country.

The defeat completed a miserable tour for the visitors after their 5-0 whitewash on Saturday in the preceding one-day series.

Chasing a target of 200-plus score, the Tigers were never in the hunt and apart from the opening stand of 41 runs between Tamim Iqbal, 23, and Nazimuddin, the rest of the batting was once again a display of insensitivity. The Tigers were bowled out for 101 in 16 overs.

Playing his first match of the tour Nazimuddin top-scored with a strokey 42. Captain Mohammad Ashraful was the only other batsman to have reached double figures with 13.

Earlier Misbahul Haq smashed a career-best 87 to lift Pakistan to a record 203-5 against Bangladesh.

The 33-year-old shared two important stands of 78 for the third wicket with Younis Khan (47) and 63 for the fourth wicket with captain Shoaib Malik (37) after Pakistan won the toss and elected to bat.

Misbah hit five towering sixes and three boundaries off just 53 balls to build Pakistan's highest total in a Twenty20 international,

beating 191-7 also against Bangladesh at Nairobi last year.

Pakistan, who blanked the visitors 5-0 in the preceding one-day series, lost openers Salman Butt (one) and Kamran Akmal (nought) in paceman Mashrafe Mortaza's first over but Misbah put the team back on track.

Butt was run out after he failed to regain his crease off the second ball, while Akmal was bowled off Mortaza's sixth delivery.

Younis matched Misbah stroke for stroke, hitting seven boundaries during his 28-ball knock before left-arm spinner Shakib Al Hasan caught him off his own bowling.

Malik upped the tempo as Pakistan made 90 off their first 10 overs. He hit two boundaries and three sixes before he was stumped off left-arm spinner Abdur Razzak.

Misbah lifted Razzak for a six over long-on to cross his previous highest Twenty20 score of 66 made against Australia.

SCOREBOARD

Full scorecard in the Twenty20 international between Pakistan and Bangladesh at National Stadium in Karachi on Sunday:

PAKISTAN	
Butt run out	1
Akmal b Mortaza	0
Younis c b Shakib	47
Misbahul not out	87
Malik st Dhiman b Razzak	35
Afridi b Shahadat	10
Fawad not out	16
Extras: (w-7)	7

Total: (For five wks in 20 overs) 203
Did not bat: Amjad, Tanveer, Gul, Riaz.
Fall of wickets: 1-6, 2-6, 3-84, 4-147, 5-168.

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Mortaza	3.5	0	38	1
Shahadat	4	0	44	1
Razzak	4	0	46	1
Reza	4	0	41	0
Shakib	4	0	33	1
Mahmudullah	0.1	0	1	0

BANGLADESH

Tamim b Tanvir	23
Nazimuddin c Amjad b Riaz	42
Ashraful c Younis b Malik	13
Aftab run out	3
Shakib c Amjad b Afridi	0
Farhad run out	2
Dhiman run out	1
Mahmudullah st Akmal b Amjad	2
Mortaza c Gul b Amjad	2
Razzak not out	1
Shahadat b Amjad	0
Extras: (lb-3, w-4, nb-5)	12
Total: (All out in 16 overs)	101

Fall of wickets: 1-41, 2-64, 3-85, 4-88, 5-92, 6-94, 7-96, 8-99, 9-101, 10-101.

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Gul	3	0	19	0
Tanvir	3	0	23	1
Malik	3	0	27	1
Afridi	4	0	19	1
Riaz	2	0	7	1
Amjad	1	0	3	3

Result: Pakistan won by 102 runs.

Man-of-the-match: Misbahul Haq.

Toss: Pakistan

Umpires: Zameer Haider (PAK), Nadeem Ghouri (PAK)



Bangladesh left-arm spinner Abdur Razzak jumps in vain to stop a slog swipe from Pakistani captain Shoaib Malik (C) during the lone Twenty20 international at the National Stadium in Karachi yesterday.

Finally a win for SA Academy

CU CORRESPONDENT

Shadle van Schalkwyk claimed a hat-trick as South Africa Academy side finished their poor campaign with a consolatory six-run victory over Pakistan Academy team in the tri-nation one-day tournament at the Chittagong Divisional Stadium yesterday.

During their three weeks visit to Bangladesh, the South Africa Academy side lost the two-match four-day series against the home side 1-0 and then lost all three previous one-day matches in the tri-nation series.

Reza Hendricks scored 84 runs off 117 balls as South Africa Academy made 216 in 49.2 overs.

In reply, Pakistan Academy were restricted to 210 for 9 in their share of 50 overs.

Van Shadle was the bowling hero for South Africa Academy by taking five wickets for 53 runs.

He captured the wickets of Khaled Tatif and Asad Shafiq in the last two balls of the 17th over and took Azhar Ali in the first ball of the next over to complete the hat-trick.

Naeem was the top scorer for Pakistan Academy side with 80 runs off 84 balls.

SCORES IN BRIEF

SOUTH AFRICA ACADEMY: 216 all out in 49.2 overs (Jappie 7, Dane 33, Villiers 1, Hendricks 84, Arnold 8, Barnes 3, Schalkwyk 0, Neves 13, Aziz 37, extras 25; Azharullah 1-39, Imad 2-34, Adil Raza 1-52, Yasir 3-34, Shehzad 1-25).

PAKISTAN ACADEMY: 210 for 9 in 50 overs (Manzoor 6, Shehzad 7, Latif 17, Raheal 42, Asad 0, Azharul, Naeem 80, Imad 25, Yasir 0, Azharullah 14 not out, Adil Raza 4 not out, extras 14; Villiers 1-41, Shadle 5-53, Abdul 1-19, Mthokozisi 1-32, Mafinki 1-31)

Tigers come home today

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh cricket team returns home from Karachi today after a disappointing performance in the five-match one-day series against the hosts.

The Tigers left the country with a hope to bury their recent wretched performance against the world's top ranked sides, but things got bad to worse in Pakistan as they lost all the matches badly except the third one-day international in Lahore.

Brittle batting was the main reason behind Mohammad Ashraful's men's recent humiliations against the teams like India, Sri Lanka, New Zealand and South Africa, but their bowling and fielding were also found wanting in the just concluded series.

There was actually no contest in the five matches except the third game where the Tigers scored 285, their best against Pakistan, in reply to a mammoth 309 runs.

Ashraful's men will now get more than a month's break before involving in their next international assignment, the tri-nation one-day series involving India and Pakistan in June at home.

But before that they will play the Premier Division Cricket Super League matches, which is likely to start from the first week of the next month.

Kolkata win a thriller



CRICINFO, undated

A minefield of a pitch at the Eden Gardens was the setting for an intense thriller as the Kolkata Knight Riders, driven by an innings of grit and tenacity from David Hussey, scraped home by five wickets in a low-scoring against Deccan Chargers in the Indian Premier League yesterday.

There was no shortage of drama during the chase of 111 and a floodlight failure towards the end only added to the drama. In the end, Kolkata managed their second straight victory and the usually raucous crowd got their money's worth.

Though a target of 111 appeared modest by Twenty20 standards, the

surface ensured batsmen would have to battle for every run. The game hung in the balance with Kolkata requiring 22 off 20 balls, before the lights suddenly failed. Hussey, though, sealed the deal once play resumed. Giving the charge to Scott Styris, he deposited him for a huge six over long-on before flicking him to fine leg for the four the following ball. Ten runs in a crunch situation was far too many and it was only fitting that Hussey clinched it with a six.

Twenty20 cricket is perceived to be a batsman's game but the proceedings today threw those notions out of the window, temporarily at least. The initial reading of the pitch pointed to another high-scoring game but little did Hyderabad know that they were actually walking into a minefield, and reality struck home as early as the second over.

Ishant Sharma got deliveries to balloon off a good length and his

fearsome pace only exacerbated the agony for the batsmen. Each time the ball thudded on the surface, a puff of dust went along with it and that was to be a regular feature.

The surface had even the most experienced batsmen at sea. Laxman's stint was nothing short of a nightmare. He was the victim of a nasty Ishant lifter which kicked and rapped him flush on the glove and his instant reaction was to shed his glove in a flash and shake his hands vigorously. A worried Billy Bowden immediately whipped out his walkie-talkie, presumably communicating his anxieties about the dustbowl, but after a brief hold-up, play continued. He departed soon after, miscuing a pull off a delivery that stopped on him.

Following a brief carnage by Adam Gilchrist, during which he creamed Ajit Agarkar for 16 off one over, Sourav Ganguly swiftly halted the charge by operating spinners from both ends. The move intensified the pressure on the hapless batsmen, as deliveries gripped and turned square, reminiscent of a crumbling fifth-day pitch.

As wickets tumbled quickly to the spinners, a helpless Symonds at

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Solid start for U-15s

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Under-15 cricket team got off a flying start in the CLICO International U-15 Challenge Competitions when they knocked Holland Under-15 down by a thumping nine wickets at the Police Sports Club ground at Bridgetown in Barbados on Saturday.

Man-of-the-match Khwaza Khairuddin claimed three wickets for 24 runs in 10 overs and Mohammad Asif Hasan captured two wickets for 12 runs in his 10 as Holland Under-15 were bundled out for 95 in 45 overs after being sent into bat. Nick Worries scored team highest 27 runs.

Bangladesh team easily reached the target of 96 runs in 20.5 overs for the loss of just one wicket.

Ahmedul Kabir was unbeaten on 43 while captain Ikhtedar Nazeef Ahmed chipped in with 32.

Philip Kingala took the lone wicket giving away nine runs.



South Africa Academy bowler Shadle (L) celebrates the dismissal of a Pakistan Academy batsman during their last group league match of the tri-nation one-day tournament at the Chittagong Divisional Stadium yesterday. Shadle with a five-wicket haul starred in his side's first win in the tournament.

Fm 89.6

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