Hockey team off to India

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh youth hockey team left for India by road yesterday to take part in the 6th Men's Junior (under-21) Asia Cup Hockey tournament.

The eight-team tournament will be held in Hyderabad from July 11 18. Bangladesh, led by Russell Mahmud Jimmy, launch their campaign against Korea on the opening day, face Oman on July 13 and Pakistan on the next day in Group B.

Bangladesh, who finished sixth in the last meet in Pakistan in 2004, had only five days' preparation at the BKSP under local coach M

Nurul Islam. Group A comprises with hosts India, Japan, Malaysia and

Hossain, Shamsul Alam Sujan,

Moshiur Rahman, Irfanul Haque,

Rimon Kumar Ghosh, Abdus Sajjad

John, Moshiur Rahman Biplab

(vice-captain), Labu Nahid,

Asaduzzaman Chandan, Sheikh

Mohammad Nannu, Hasan Jubair,

Igbal Nadir, Krishna Kumar,

Russell Mahmud Jimmy (captain)

Ponting doubtful

for Darwin series

Australian captain Ricky Ponting

returned home Monday from the

West Indies tour and underwent

immediate wrist surgery, Cricket

with two one-day internationals to

play against the West Indies to seek

treatment, had an assessment with

Cricket Australia medical officer

Trefor James and wrist specialist

the tissues that hold a tendon in

place in his right wrist, which he

injured in the third one-day inter-

national against the West Indies in

him extra recovery time ahead of

Australia's three one-dayers

against Bangladesh in Darwin next

as a warm-up to the Champions

CA spokesman said of the skipper

go along. But that's why they got

him in for assessment so quickly, so

they could decide on a course of

action rather than him leaving it for

a week. This way it gives him more

one-day side for the first time in

Indies in St Kitts on Sunday.

Michael Clarke captained the

Australia are expected to name a

provisional 30-player squad for the

Champions Trophy later this week.

part in the 9 round Swiss-League

The event will be held in three

"He is a great champion. His

"We are not close friends but I

attitude always is positive when he

always have a lot of respect for him.

I admire him a lot. At the same time

I am very happy for me, but sorry

for him because he deserves his

School chess

Greatest win

final like this," said Nadal.

loses, when he wins.

availability for the Darwin series.

Trophy tournament in Pakistan.

The Bangladesh series will serve

"We're not sure at this stage,"

"We'll have to assess him as we

Ponting had the surgery to give | bowler.

Grenadalast week, CA said.

month and September.

time to recover.

FROM PAGE 17

competition.

FROM PAGE 17

and Girls.

title, too.'

He then had surgery to repair

Ponting, who left the Caribbean

and Tapash Barman.

AFP, Sydney

Australia said.

Greg Hoy.

Singapore. TEAM from the opposition," said Mehrab Hossain Kiran, Manwar

Jayawardene. Sanath Jayasuriya earlier hit 125

Jayawardene refused to compare Mendis with Sri Lanka's world record holder Muttiah Muralitharan, the

Asian Test bowler of the year. "It's too early to say. Murali is a different act altogether," said

Javawardene of the off-spinner.

Cricket

CRICINFO, undated

carrom board.

"Murali will come back to the party soon enough. It's good to have another quality spinner in the team and with Mendis coming

Lord knows how they classify

Ajantha Mendis in other areas of

the world but round these parts,

people of a certain vintage will

most likely refer to him as a finger

in Karachi in the 1970s, tennis ball in

hand and an unresponsive tarmac

road or cement pitch to bowl on,

odds stacked against them. The ball

was squeezed in the kind of grip Jack

Iverson had, or for locals, similar to

On pitching and regaining its

original shape again the ball would

batsmen none the wiser. Nadeem

Moosa was a modest first-class left-

arm spinner with the cricket ball in

hand but a lethal finger champion

with the tennis ball. His success on

being it was harder to squeeze and

he has done through the Asia Cup,

through his brief career so far,

These were types found mostly

Murali," said Jayawardene. "Mendis has just come into international cricket, batsmen will get used to it. He will have to work harder," he added.

Jayawardene also praised centurion Jayasuriya for his "brilliant" innings.

form and we didn't try to stop him from what he was doing," the Sri Lankan skipper said.



"It was a brilliant innings, and the turning point for us. I know Mendis created so much, but we needed runs in the first place, and

Jayawardene said he was happy Sri Lanka have overcome a slump since finishing runners-up to

whatheis, for now at least.

executive. The grips are of the kind

from eight quality overs tonight

profitable delivery here was the

nothing but fizz on straight. In this

least, he located not just the arrow-

back and risk being trapped.

Admittedly, some of his victims

gave themselves up, though it can

be argued that in playing for some-

some pressure will be taken off " Australia in last year's World Cup in the Caribbean.

"We had a couple of injuries, and I am not making excuses, we didn't play to our potential but in this tournament we have done what we wanted to and I am

proud," said Jayawardene. "He (Jayasuriya) is in terrific Dhoni admitted his batsmen could | terday. not cope with the versatile and

> "It was one of those days when Mendis bowled well and it was the

> "It was difficult to pick Mendis, never had any real reply against him," Dhoni added.

Dhoni said India played seven batsman to counter the Mendis factor. He hoped his team would get to grips with the spinner during their tour of Sri Lanka later this month.

"The main reason to add one batsman was Mendis because his action is difficult and that's why we picked one more batsman. Ir hindsight our bowlers did well to restrict them to 273 but it was their day," he said.

Tests first, so we will have time to get used to him and batsmen will have to adjust against him," Dhoni added.

Bhola still

SPORTS REPORTER

leading

Bhola Lal of Sonargaon Hotel retained solo lead in the Premier Division of Delta Life Open Squash tournament securing 18 points after six rounds after crushing Swapan Parvez of Bashundhara Indian captain Mahendra Singh | Group 3-0 at the Dhaka Club yes-

Despite the day's defeat Swapan was second with 13 points, followed by Bishunath and Masud Rana on 12 points.

In the day's other matches, Raju Ram of Navy Club beat Zein Omar of Dhaka Club by straight sets while Bishunath (Gulshan Club) 2-1.

advanced to the final. Sadaf beat Zebun Nasrin of BUET Club 2-1 and Swapan ousted Talha of Army Club 2-0 in the semifinals.

In Under-18 Division, Shahin (Dhaka Club) and Tamim (Gulshan Club) won their respective matches.

WA to help in Malaysian development

AFP, Perth

The Western Australian Cricket Association said Monday it has signed an agreement to develop cricket in Malaysia. WACA chief executive Graeme

Wood signed a four-year memorandum of understanding with the Malaysian Cricket Association in Kuala Lumpur, it said. The two organisations will share

proposals and programmes and cooperate on cricket development. Wood, a former Test opening

batsman, said there was great synergy between the two cricketing organisations. "Kuala Lumpur has played host to international matches and the

inaugural Super 8's tournament, while the recent ICC Under 19 World Cup showcased the nation as a major cricket destination," he said in a statement. "Both the WACA and the MCA will encourage and promote an exchange of programmes, experi-

ences, information and knowledge in a partnership to improve the game in both regions. Two of Malaysia's leading players, Banerji Nair and Harris Abu Bakar, went to Perth to train and play early in their careers and both

Younis speaks for Shoaib

have shown the benefit of their

Australian experience in their local

competitions.

Projected a spoilt brat by the media, Shoaib Akhtar is actually a child in a man's body, says senior Pakistan batsman Younis Khan who feels the maverick pacer is in desperate need of some privacy to get his career back on track.

"Shoaib is a match winner and I have spent a lot of time with him. He is like a kid who needs attention all the time ... He is in need of extra care," Younis said.

Shoaib is battling to save his chequered career after being handed a five-year ban by the Pakistan Cricket Board for disciplinary violations, a punishment that was later reduced to 18 months

He has got temporary reprieve from that as well after the Lahore High Court suspended his ban until further hearing in September.

His every move is being tracked by a curious media and Younis feels this is exactly what Shoaib does not need. The veteran right-hander says Shoaib would be better off if his off-field life stops making national headlines.

Salam said the federation will not consider hasten the start of the tournament.

"All matches will be played in Dhaka and it will begin on July 31 because the grounds have yet to be prepared. It will take some time because of the monsoon."

facilities like providing accommodation and food to the outside

It was learnt that BKSP, who have a number of footballers playing for senior division clubs, will

institute are enrolled with Badda but they are not playing. Muktijoddha, Victoria and

the meet, also have BKSP students but agreed to release them. For Rajshahi champions Diganta Prasari, it would be a consolation after their bid to join

the B. League failed.

TEAMS

Automatic qualifiers: Abahani, Mohammedan, Muktijoddha, Sheikh Russel, Brothers Union, Arambagh, Chittagong

INDIA PICK TEAM FOR LANKA SERIES TODAY

Seniors set to return

Cricket

PTI, Mumbai

A fit-again Sachin Tendulkar and the controversial spinner Harbhajan Singh are set to return and beef up a struggling Indian team, to be picked here tomorrow, for the three-Test series against Sri Lanka starting later this month.

The clamour for the expected retention of seniors Sourav Ganguly, Rahul Dravid and VVS Laxman in the Masud Rana (Army Club) defeated | Test squad led by Anil Kumble has gone up after the one-day team's In C Division, Sadaf of Gulshan failure to clinch both the tri-series in Club and Swapan of British Club | Bangladesh and the Asia Cup in Pakistan that ended yesterday.

Mahendra Singh Dhoni and his younger lot of players did not show the needed will and strength of frontrunner for one of the remaincharacter in the most crucial ties of ingslots in the middle order.

both the tournaments, the finals, respectively.

With Tendulkar reportedly fit and Harbhajan Singh having served out his five-match ODI ban for slapping fellow-India teammate S Sreesanth the duo is poised to get back to international action along with Dravid, Ganguly and Laxman.

Tendulkar missed the two ODI events post-IPL to give rest to his troublesome groin. His inspiring presence along with those of the other three vastly experienced batsmen should give the batting line-up the stability that seemed to be missing at crucial stages in the one-day tournaments.

Yuvraj Singh, after having had a mixed run in the Tests, is the

The remaining spot might go to and lost to Pakistan and Sri Lanka Suresh Raina who has returned to the ODI squad after a long gap and seem to have edged ahead of Rohit Sharma and his UP teammate Mohd Kaif on current form.

The Indian cricket team, meanduring the Indian Premier League, while, returned here today from Karachi after losing the Asia Cup final to Sri Lanka.

Besides skipper Dhoni, others who arrived in Mumbai by a Pakistan Airlines flight were Yusuf Pathan, Irfan Pathan, Robin Uthappa, Pragyan Ojha, bowling coach Venkatesh Prasad and BCCI officials Niranjan Shah and Ratnakar Shetty.

Other players proceeded to their respective hometowns while coach Gary Kirsten has returned home to South Africa after taking permission from the Cricket Board, BCCI sources said.

Something special!

Cricket

AFP, London

South Africa coach Mickey Arthur cannot wait for his side's Test series against England to get underway at Lord's and start what he hopes will be an historic campaign.

Thursday, weather permitting, should see the start of a four-Test contest with South Africa bidding for their first series win in England since their return from apartheidenforced isolation.

Five years ago, on their last visit to England, the Proteas were 2-1 up heading into the final match of the series only for England to win by nine wickets at The Oval.

In 1994 the series in England between the two sides ended all square while in 1998 England, after a poor start, emerged as 2-1 winners. It all added to the impression,

reinforced by their dramatic exit in the 1999 World Cup, on a tie against eventual winners Australia, that South Africa were 'chokers', one of the cruellest taunts that can be levelled against any group of sportsmen. Indeed, former South Africa fast

bowler Allan Donald told the Observer newspaper here Sunday: "We have always been labelled as 'chokers' and it is a horrible word. "But we really messed it up

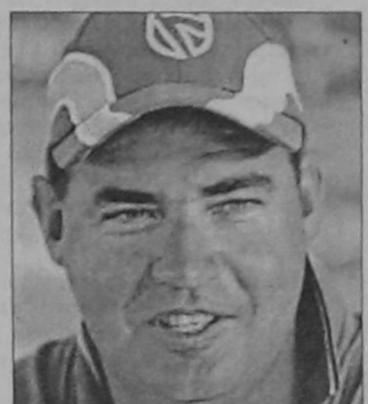
when we had chances to put teams away. I suppose, being dead honest, we have choked." But Lord's, where in the corre-

sponding Test in 2003 Graeme Smith, then as now their captain,

scored a double century during a string in the Indian Premier League crushing innings win, has proved a and, ideally, he would have like happy hunting ground for South Africa on their recent visits.

Now, boasting an impressive pace attack led by the in-form Dale Steyn, hopes are high amongst the tourists that they can become the first South Africa side since 1965 to to have done -- and I'm confident win a series in England when batting great Graeme Pollock's masterful hundred at Trent Bridge set up the decisive victory in a 1-0 triumph.

Arthur, after seeing the final day of a three-day tour match against



MICKEY ARTHUR

Middlesex at Uxbridge in the London suburbs washed out with a ball bowled Sunday after both sides made over 300 in a high-scoring draw, said: "There is a special buzz.

"This is one of the tours we've been talking about as a group ever since the planning started two

years ago. Smith's first since tearing his ham-

more than the two hours of batting he got before being dismissed. However, an excited Arthur said all members of his team had had

sufficient preparation. "I'm pretty sure we've done the work we need we're right now. "You can feel in the dressing

room the boys are ready for the Test and just want to get cracking in the series now. "We're counting down the

hours; I wish it was starting in two days' time -- that is how ready I feel we are as a group. "Each day is delaying it. We just

want to start playing now and get our teeth into the series."

In April, South Africa drew a three-match series in India and this upcoming contest is the second leg of a tricky trio of overseas trips which culminates with a clash against world number ones Australia.

"They don't come much harder than that as three tours in a row," Arthur said. "We needed to get a team ready for that, and our process started about two

years ago. "I'm really confident we've put

together a really competitive side." Arthur is particularly excited by the Proteas' pace attack. "I think the sight of Steyn and Morne Morkel is going to be something

special this summer." He added: "South Africa have never won in England since unity, The Middlesex match was so it is something we've put pretty high on our agendas."

that," Reg Dickason said last week.

Pakistan Cricket Board chair-

Sri Lanka won the Asia Cup final

man Nasim Ashraf, who attended

the ICC meeting, said he was confi-

dent the biennial 'mini-World Cup'

in Karachi, beating India by 100 runs.

ICC won't compromise

World cricket chief Haroon Logart on Monday promised to pull the Champions Trophy out of Pakistan if there was any threat of violence, after a deadly suicide blast on the

The International Cricket Council (ICC) chief executive vowed no compromise on safety after 19 were killed in the capital Islamabad.

"The ICC will not compromise the safety and security of any individual at one of its tournaments and if it is not appropriate to play in any country then we will not do so," Logart said in a statement.

Players from Australia, New Zealand and England have expressed concern over playing in Pakistan, which is due to hold the prestigious Champions Trophy

Rawalpindi, one of three venues

for the tournament, adjoins Islamabad where 14 policemen and five civilians were killed and scores injured in Sunday's attack. Sri Lanka is the designated

alternative venue but is also facing renewed violence between Tamil Tiger rebels and government troops, with South Africa mentioned as a possible replacement.

Lorgat said security was monitored during the Asia Cup while an ICC executive board meeting last week discussed an independent assessment. A security process had also been agreed ahead of the tournament, he said.

"Our consultants on security have been working with the Pakistan authorities during the Asia Cup and will report back to us as soon as possible with their views," he said.

A private security expert, hired by Australia, New Zealand and England ahead of the Champions Trophy.

has said there was work to be done "Some fine-tuning needs to be

done and everyone acknowledges

Hardest loss

FROM PAGE 17 After holding his nerve to win a third set tie-break, he then saved

will be held in Pakistan.

two match points at the end of the fourth and, for much of the fifth he looked the more likely winner. "It was a great feeling to turn it around in the fourth set tiebreak and to push it to the fifth set was

awesome," he said. "I really

thought that with the momentum

and having won in five sets last year that I was going to do it again. "I saw he was getting very nervous in the fourth set tiebreak. He could not make the returns he usually does.

I really felt he was feeling it and the

momentum was with me."

25 26 27 28 | 29 | 30 47 48 49 50 51 52 CRYPTOQUIP

CUOXVOM ZSSEMVK UJ MUNVGAYFH

Saturday's Cryptoquip: IF A FOREIGNER COMES INTO A CITY AND IS ALL BY HIMSELF. MIGHT HE BE CALLED THE LONE STRANGER? Today's Cryptoquip Clue: G equals T

Aussies' rare sweep

shoot through, with sharp spin straight line but also the length: too

either way, predictably leaving far forward, you look a fool, stay

the taped tennis ball: the logic reserved for a more capable oppo-

groups -- Class KG to V, Class VI to X ported with 38.

thus spin.

Andrew Symonds top-scored with 66 from 80 balls, Luke Ronchi made a rapid-fire 64 from 28 balls to earn the Man-of-the-Match award, David Hussey led the late flourish with 52 from 21 balls, and Mike

Hussey gathered 51 from 52 balls. Ramnaresh Sarwan took three wickets for 57 runs from nine overs, and Fidel Edwards captured three for 86 from nine overs to be the most successful bowlers for West

The runs Edwards conceded were the most by a West Indies bowler in an ODI, three more than the 83 Corey Collymore gave away from his 10 overs against South Africa four years

ago at Johannesburg. Australia then struck early, when Johnson had West Indies captain Chris Gayle caught behind for five in the second over of the day internationals against home' team's chase, and the leftarm fast bowler inflicted more "Shakib is a very important agony, when Ramnaresh Sarwan was caught at mid-off for seven to

leave the hosts on 21 for two. Australia never allowed West Indies to get back into the groove, although Shawn Findlay, playing his second ODI, got the top score of an unbeaten 59 from 74 balls and Shivnarine Chanderpaul made 38 from 49 balls. No other West Indies

batsman passed 20. Symonds completed a fine allround game, scalping two for 23 from seven overs, and stand-in Australia captain Michael Clarke snared two for 34 from six overs. Earlier, Symonds, Ronchi, and

the two Husseys built on the platform provided by openers Shaun Marsh and Shane Watson. They put on 70 before Watson, later named Man-of-the-Series, was caught at third man for 29 off Dwayne Bravo in the 13th over, and Marsh was caught behind off Edwards for 49 in the 20th over to

leave Australia 129 for two. Ronchi, promoted to No. 3, showed his enterprise, when he equalled the record for the second fastest 50 in an ODI by an Australian. He drove his 22nd delivery from

Edwards "inside-out" through extra cover for his fourth four to reach the milestone in the 20th over. But he was caught behind, when Powell b Johnson

he was caught behind off the first ball from left-arm spin bowler Nikita Miller in the 22nd over before Sarwan also had Clarke caught behind for five in the next over to leave the visitors on 152 for four.

Symonds entered and batted with typical aplomb alongside Mike Hussey and they put Australia firmly on course for their massive total, when they added 113 for the fifth wicket. Symonds top-edged a pull to mid-wicket for a single to reach his 50 off Edwards in the 42nd over before he was caught behind off the same bowler in the

44th over. Hussey proceeded to reach his 50 in the next over, when he drove Bravo to long-off for a single, but Edwards got him off the last ball of the following over, when he was

caught at long-on. second fastest 50 in an ODI by an Australia which Ronchi had earlier

established. off the same bowler off the last ball

of the innings. West Indies made one change to their line-up. They dropped Darren

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the fifth and final one-day international between West Indies and Australia at Warner Park in Saint Kitts on Sunday: AUSTRALIA: 341 for 8 in 50 overs

50; Edwards 3-86, Sarwan 3-57) WESTINDIES Gayle c Ronchi b Johnson Marshall lbw b Watson Sarwan c Hopes b Johnson Chanderpaul c Lee b Clarke Findlay not out

Jayawardene's ploy not to play him in the group game against how you would strike the striker on a Anil Kumble, just wackier and less India was less to rest him than to keep him cloaked in secrecy, And like Kumble, for tonight at though he coyly suggested otherwise later. There has been a growing curiosity around Mendis over

thing that never came, the victory is Ponting's absence, leading them to the local circuit, goes the urban also the bowler's. The leg-break to variation, his every grip. A mystery spinner he has been | PTI, Karachi a 5-0 series whitewash of the West | legend, hastened the prevalence of remove RP Singh should've been thus far. The mystery is now out in the open and every batsman is out Mendis, of uncertain categorisation, to maintain that secrecy

clueless tailenders. His most remarkable achieve-

care how to type cast him. Mendisis facing the great Muttiah Muralitharan appeared a doddle by His approach to the crease is comparison. Mahendra Singh Dhoni said later that he just couldn't less run-up and more the hurried be read at all. His men weren't walk-through of a harried financial alone; Mahela Jayawardene admitsuper slo-mo was really created for. ted he'd been bowled a couple of The absence of a stock ball is the times facing Mendis and that Kumar Sangakkarra spent an hour a day in only other tangible conclusion the nets before the tournament keeping to Mendis, trying to pick up and many more through the last his variations. It's one thing, two weeks. Some he turns one way, Jayawardene said, to read him from some the other, though the most the hand, another altogether to then play him off the pitch. one that threatened much yet did there were shades of early 1990s

the last few months, but this performance will propel him on to the big stage, right in to the glare. The secret is now out. Video machines and laptops will start whirring, chewing up his every step, his every

nent. Even a hattrick could've been his, but you suspect more opportu-But if Mendis keeps bowling as nities might come his way against

to solve it. The real challenge for begins now.

Fall of wickets: 1-6, 2-21, 3-56, 4-92 5-129, 6-131, 7-138, 8-158, 9-172. OM Bowler 42 Johnson Bracken Watson

Man-of-the-match: Luke Ronchi.

In the closing overs, David Hussey, Mike's younger brother, created a stir with his audacious batting, striking four fours and four sixes to reset the record for the

He reached his 50, when he lofted Sarwan for the last of his sixes over long-on, but two balls later, he was caught at deep midwicket off the same bowler before James Hopes was caught at mid-on

Australia were unchanged, but Sammy, and brought in Andre Fletcher.

(Marsh 49, Watson 29, Ronchi 64, M Hussey 51, Symonds 66, D Hussey

38 Bravo c D Hussey b Symonds Fletcher st Ronchi b Clarke Ramdin c M Hussey b Symonds 10 absence in hockey.

Miller c Watson b Johnson Edwards c Hopes b Johnson Extras: (lb-2, w-9) Total: (All out in 39.5 overs)

34 Clarke Symonds Result: Australia won by 169 runs and clinched five-match series 5-

Man-of-the-series: Shane Watson. Umpires: Steve Bucknor, Asad Toss: Australia.

Olympics **FROM PAGE 17** Sharda Ugra, sports editor of the respected India Today magazine, said an early medal will enliven

Indian interest in the Games. "If we win an early medal, there will be a lot of interest," said Ugra. "Anyway, we have always been a nation of great sports watchers. There has been good viewership for quality sports in the country since

"Olympics is a visual treat and fans enjoy the atmosphere." Boxing official Muralidharan Raja said the charm of the Olympics was unrivalled.

past so many years.

Gupta, 16.

league altogether, it's the ultimate challenge," he said. "India may be crazy about cricket but the Olympics have their own fans and following. Olympics will never lose out to cricket."

Raja's views were echoed by

"The Olympics is in a different

"We get to watch so much cricket, it gets boring after some time," he said. "The Olympics come once in four years, why would anyone want to miss them." Major events at the Olympics will be shown live by state-run

broadcaster Dooordarshan, while

a large media contingent will make

the trip to Beijing despite India's

after an appeal.

FROM PAGE 17

The tournament committee is also looking forward to give extra

get them back.

BFF plans

Five players of the Savar sport Wanderers, who are going to enter

young tennis player Venayak

Mohammedan, Farashganj, Khulna Abahani, Chittagong Abahani, Rahamatganj (B. League). Qualifiers: Victoria, Sunrise SC, Jatrabari, Dhaka Wanderers (Senior Division), Bangladesh Army, Bangladesh Navy, Bangladesh Air Force, Bangladesh Police (Services), BKSP and Diganta Prasari.

Cricket AFP, Karachi

night of the Asia Cup final.

from September 11-28.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer ACROSS 41 Girl who DOWN 25 Despot 26 "Things I 1 "Auld -1 Pingpong "girly" Syne" tactic Over-4 Vacation- 43 Recede 2 Reed heard 44 Concep While ing instru-7 Whirled ment Talking to 46 Old photo 3 Throb 11 Help a Myself" 4 Choose author 13 Apiece 50 Sow's 5 Nourish 27 Line of 6 Charlatan fashion? 14 Skin opening 53 Upper 7 Events 28 Poslimb 15 Ark-itect tor sesses, 16 Earl Grey, 55 Con-Akeelah old-style 8 Plague 29 Vocal for one sumes 56 Desertlike 9 Swiss 17 Egress range 57 Old 30 Wander 18 Rise canton Olds-10 Profit 31 Burst 20 Burr-

12 USAF

group

19 Cauldron

35 Rage

40 Out of

21 Moray or mouths 28 Convertconger 23 Stir-fry 61 Type alternasquares tive Solution time: 24 mins. 32 Type of cotton thread 33 Lotion additive 34 Japanese 36 Nothing (Sp.)

mobile

58 Staircase

compo-

Hamilton

event

22 Present

24 River

45 Vicinity 47 Top of the head 48 Particular 49 Venomous vipers 50 Satchel 51 Raw rock 52 Intention 37 Beatles 54 Swabble's drummer 39 Telecast

air show 38 Scepter use, in the dict. 42 Century divisions ZG GAV MUZDNZXYFH DTZFG,

MAUEGVK "TBVM! ZTT TBVM!"

Pinning hopes FROM PAGE 17 get an opportunity to play Twenty20 tournament in Canada before flying for Australia," said Rafiqul. Bangladesh will play three one-

Australia in Darwin.

cricket," he added.

Bangladesh side will play four more three-day games including one against visiting South Africa from July 25-27 at the County Ground, New Road in Worcester. The remaining three-day matches are scheduled against

Warwickshire (July 11-13 at

Edgbaston, Birmingham),

Leicestershire (July 16-18 at the

Grace Road, Leicester) and

Derbyshire (July 21-23 at the

player and that's why we hope he

takes this opportunity in England

to make up his absence from

The strong second-string

County Ground, Derby). The limited-overs matches will be held on July 30 against Lancashire at the Moss Lane, Alderley Edge, on August 1 against Marylebone Cricket Club at the Racecourse, Durham University Grounds, Durham and on August 3 against Durham at the Riverside Ground, Chester-le-Street.

SQUAD Zunaed Siddique (captain), Tamim

Igbal, Nazimuddin, Rokibul Hassan, Nayeem Islam (vicecaptain), Mushfigur Rahim, Dhiman Ghosh, Rajin Saleh, Mosharraf Hossain, Sajidul Islam, Dollar Mahmud, Nazmul Hossain, Rubel Hossain, Syed Rasel and Shakib Al Hasan.

Magical Mendis



after he demolished India to help Sri Lanka retain the Asia Cup. Jayawardene said he was not surprised by Mendis' magical 6-13 in eight unplayable overs as India,

chasing 274 to win Sunday's final, were skittled out for 173. "I wasn't really surprised with the way Mendis bowled," said Jayawardene, adding the 23-year-

old thrived when given room to express himself. "We have given him the freedom to go out there and play his way. That's the way he takes games away

to help Sri Lanka post 273 in 49.5 overs. Hosts Pakistan, Bangladesh, United Arab Emirates and Hong Kong also competed in the tourna-

AJANTHA MENDIS

that's what Sanath did.'

unorthodox Mendis, who took 17 wickets in the tournament.

first time when we were playing against him. He is a difficult bowler," said Dhoni. most of our batsmen couldn't pick him, we never played him before or watched him in videos and he was difficult and, frankly speaking, we

eventually people will not much ment of the night, however, was that

"The good thing is that we have

Challenge begins now