

Sajib Hossain (L) of Ansar gets defensive as Robin Mia throws a punch during their bout in the Southeast Bank 20th National Junior Boxing competition at the Mohammad Ali Boxing Stadium yesterday.

LOCAL SNIPPETS

SPORTS REPORTER

The semifinals line up of the seven weight categories were set yesterday in the Southeast Bank 20th National Junior Boxing competition at the Mohammad Ali Boxing Stadium.

Nazrul Islam, Mojahid Haq, Setu Karmakar and Saddam Hossain made it to the last four in the 51 kg category.

In the 48 kg, Arif Hossain, Shahin Mollah, Selim Hossain and Mainul Islam made it into the semifinals.

All semifinals and finals will be held today.

**FED CUP BASKETBALL**  
BKSP crushed Gregs Club 62-43 in the Federation Cup basketball tournament at the Dhanmondi Gymnasium.

Shoaib scored 17 points while Shaon added 16 during BKSP's second successive rout in the competition.

In the other match, Flame Boys beat Rangers 64-39 with Shaon scoring 18 points.

**GAIBANDHA CRICKET**  
Our Correspondent adds: CYSA beat Roose Smriti Sangsad by seven wickets in the second division cricket league at the local stadium.

Roose were shot out for a paltry 51 which CYSA went on to chase in just 5.5 overs.

In the other match of the day, Anirban Sporting Club defeated Jubo Sansad by five wickets.

School Chess

SPORTS REPORTER

Abhropratim Manna took solo lead in the 10th Standard Chartered School Chess tournament yesterday.

Manna beat Rezaul Islam, with whom he shared the lead on Saturday, in their sixth round game.

In the KG to V group, Aditya and Sayan are still leading jointly while Mohona and Shaati are in command of the girls' section.

Bangladesh

**FROM PAGE 17**  
goal each for the winners. Basim Rajab scored the consolation goal for Oman.

Placed in Group B, Bangladesh will play their third and last match against strong Pakistan today.

It is worth mentioning that the senior hockey team earlier beat Oman 6-1 in the final to clinch the AHF Cup Hockey title with unbeaten run in Singapore recently.

Nazmul can't

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with Tim Groenewald (78). Maddy made a hundred off 146 balls with the help of 15 boundaries.

Nazmul removed the South African-born Groenewald and then took two more to complete his five-for.

Syed Raseel took the other wicket that fell but left-arm spinner Mosharrar Hossain remained ineffective throughout the day.

Lots of rooms

**FROM PAGE 17**  
Evidence that tourism has been falling off was clearly visible in May this year as some of China's top tourists sites. Parking lots normally impossible to find a space in were half empty at Mutianyu, one of the top sites at the Great Wall just outside Beijing.

Faced with falling bookings, European airlines Air France and British Airways have been running special promotions to attract tourists to their China routes, while the French firm has also been forced to suspend several weekly flights.

Patience comes in handy

Cricket

CRICINFO, undated

At least Graeme Smith has managed to retain his newfound sense of humour. As he and Neil McKenzie walked off at the end of a torrid day's play, the pair could only grin at the indignity to which they had been subjected.

After being asked to bat again, 346 runs in arrears, they did at least avoid the humiliation of being dismissed by Kevin Pietersen armed with the new ball, but that -- frankly -- was as good as their day got. Not even a sparkling 101 from Ashwell Prince could mask the inadequacy of their performance, for the third day running.

For England, on the other hand, the past three days have been clinical in their excellence. It is hard to recall a match that they have dominated so unequivocally -- except perhaps the 2006 Lord's Test against Sri Lanka, in which they led by 359 runs on first innings and had claimed three more in the second by the close of the third day's play. And yet, Sri Lanka somehow rallied to escape with a share of the match, to start an improbable run of five consecutive draws on this ground. With two days remaining and the weather unpredictable, England know that there can be no let-up just yet.

No one imagines that England will allow their standards to slip, however, because the diligence of their under-rated four-pronged attack was matched by the delight they displayed as they went about their jobs. The ball failed to swing as it had done on Friday evening, but Ryan Sidebottom and James Anderson ploughed their furrows outside off and accepted what little movement came their way, a tactic that was inevitably followed by Stuart Broad, whose appetite for accuracy must surely be rewarded with wickets one day soon. Only

twice in 12 innings has Broad failed to take a wicket, but his best to date remains the 3 for 54 he collected as Sidebottom's sidekick in Napier back in March.

Talking of Napier, there was something decidedly Kiwi about England's performance with the ball today, and little wonder -- after six hard-fought Tests against supposedly outclassed opponents, England have learned all about the virtues of discipline in the face of adversity. Andrew Strauss suggested in the build-up to the Test that a little more pace and room to free the arms would play into England's hands, and so it has proved to date. Doubtless South Africa's chastened firebrands will have got the hint by the time the Headingley Test comes around, but until then, England's bowlers have got another innings in which to ram the lesson home.

Today was, as Monty Panesar has occasionally been known to say, a day for putting the ball in the right areas. Astoundingly, Panesar -- doubtless expecting to be lampooned for his predictability -- declined to use that legendary phrase when he faced the media after play, even though it would have been the most just for England's performance. "Today was hard work for all of us as a unit, but we stayed patient and that applied a lot of pressure," he said. Which amounted to the same thing.

Whatever way he chose to describe his efforts, Panesar was superb. Ever since they first crumbled against the might of Shane Warne, South Africa have long been considered woeful against spin, and yet, such a reputation cannot explain their longstanding success on the subcontinent -- four wins out of ten against India since readmission, including a drawn series as recently as April. Today, however, Panesar rendered them clueless against the turning ball. The sight of McKenzie being bowled

around his legs instilled panic in the lower order, and while the spin he extracted was sharp, it did not justify the rash of sweeps, slogs and misjudgements that hustled South Africa to the follow-on.

"I'll get the odd one to turn here and there, but in general at Lord's you have to be patient," said Panesar. "You're not going to get wickets straight up, so you have to work for them. Exploiting the conditions and knowing what to do is something I am learning all the time, so it's about knowing on any given day what the conditions are and applying your skills."

Panesar's summary could have applied equally to South Africa's batsmen or bowlers, none of whom knew what to expect from the surface, and telegraphed their unease throughout. "As far as their bowling is concerned, they understand English conditions very well and know more than our guys which lengths to bowl on different pitches in England," said Prince, whose joy at a maiden Lord's hundred was muted by the circumstances. "I'm sure as the series goes on our guys will learn, and hopefully rather quickly, which are the lengths to hit. It's not just about the pace and we know that."

For now, South Africa must embark on a long and treacherous hike to safety, one that Smith and McKenzie at least got underway safely enough in the fading light this evening. "We know South Africa are a tough team, so we're preparing for a tough day tomorrow," said Panesar, who can always be relied upon to promote the cautious side of England's game. As for South Africa, they have Sri Lanka's rearguard to use as a touchstone, and a few fast-fading memories of past Lord's glories to inspire them. But for Smith, from this position, a share of the match would surely be every bit as much of a triumph as he achieved on this ground in 2003.

Soccer career for Sourav?

PTI, Kolkata

Former India cricket captain Sourav Ganguly will try his legs on football and will turn out for Chirag United in the I-League starting in September.

Chirag United, who were promoted to the I-League this season, will sign up Ganguly to add some "gloss" to the league.

A brand ambassador of Chirag computers, part of the RP Group, Ganguly will complete the formalities after he is back from the three-Test tour of Sri Lanka, Chirag chairman Kaustav Roy said.

"Ganguly's presence in a football match will be a star attraction; maybe he'll play for a two-minute slot in one of the I-League matches. Again, it all depends on Ganguly's availability from his cricketing assignments," Roy added.

Roy said they thought about this as Ganguly's presence will definitely help promote football.

Meanwhile, Chirag United played out a goalless draw against George Telegraph in an encounter of the Calcutta Football League (Premier Division) at Howrah yesterday.

Rumi, Russell fly off to SL

UNB, Dhaka

Two Bangladeshi tennis coaches Rashedul Islam Rumi and Mustafizur Rahman Russell left yesterday for Sri Lanka to participate in the new Level 1 coaches course for beginner and intermediate players to be held from July 14.

International Tennis Federation coaches Serush Menon and Karl Davies will conduct the 12-day coaching programme.

National Sports Council (NSC) will provide Tk 100,000 towards meeting the expenditure, while Bangladesh Tennis Federation will bear the rest amount.

Sri Lanka will provide lodging, food and local transport for the participants.

They will return home on July 26.

Surfing too costly for Pomersbach

INTERNET, undated

Australian batsman Luke Pomersbach's cricket pre-season has been thrown into turmoil after he broke his collarbone in a surfing accident.

Pomersbach, named the country's most talented young player last season, ploughed shoulder-first into a sandbar last weekend and was lucky not to suffer spinal damage.

The hard-hitting 23-year-old underwent surgery last Friday and won't be able to pick up a bat, let alone run, for up to six weeks.

Pomersbach made his Twenty20 debut for Australia last December in Perth after Brad Hodge aggravated a back injury an hour before the match.

Pomersbach, who is expected to be ready for the start of the domestic campaign in October, is hoping to push for more international honours this summer after a solid Indian Premier League campaign for Kings XI Punjab.

BCB okays

**FROM PAGE 17**  
amount under the LFA is 56.88 million dollars including allowable expenditure of 15.31 million dollars which will be spent for the production of Live World Television Feed for the said events for the duration of the term," he added.

"And the clause which said the BCB will provide Nimbus with a match schedule for each event at least 22 days before the start of the event and hence if any game is cancelled, then the allowable expenditure will be reduced proportionately. This is totally a new clause which will keep our interest intact," said Momen.

He also informed that they made changes in the clause of the BCB events schedule, uplink cost, net fees and BCB branding.

BFF connects

**FROM PAGE 17**  
these contributions as it only managed less than Tk 5 crore as sponsorship for the last six years.

A major portion of the amount, however, was given by National Football League sponsors Nitel-Tata Group for three editions of the tournament.

For a starving federation -- Salahuddin's committee started with a cash deficit of nearly Tk 40 lakh -- the deal is like a silver lining in dark clouds if one considers that football had not been played at top level in the country for one year.

Although the BFF had sold its inaugural professional football league to an Indian agency for at least Tk 75 lakh last year, the B. League ended without any title sponsor. The co-sponsors, however, provided a scanty amount.

Freddie fails with bat

Cricket

BBC ONLINE, undated

Andrew Flintoff's batting woes continued as he lasted just three balls and made two runs on a frustrating day for Lancashire against Hampshire.

The home side had started day two on 249-8 and reached 327, with tailenders James Tomlinson (35no) and Chris Tremlett (60) adding a further 79 runs.

Tomlinson then took two wickets and Lancashire were wobbling on 180-5.

But Steven Croft and Luke Sutton took the visitors to 229 without any further loss before the close of play.

The pair had rebuilt the innings after Lancashire lost three wickets for six runs in three overs following a promising partnership from opener Lou Vincent and skipper Stuart Law.

The duo made 96 in 31 overs either side of the break before Vincent's struggles sparked Lancashire's struggles.

Vincent had been dropped at slip by Rory Kleinveldt off

Tomlinson but rashly pulled the bowler's next delivery to substitute fielder Chris Benham at square leg.

Hampshire skipper Dimitri Mascarenhas removed Law in the next over as he had him caught behind by Nic Pothas.

Tomlinson then 'quickly' dismissed Flintoff, who has now made 93 runs in seven championship innings this season.

Flintoff is hoping for a recall to the England side for their second Test against South Africa, which begins on 18 July at Headingley, and will be disappointed he missed the chance to impress.

But Croft and Sutton ensured there were no further alarms for Lancashire with a 49-run partnership.

Meanwhile, Mark Ramprakash's wait for his 100th first-class century continues after he fell for 42 as Surrey ground their way to 356-7 on day two at Trent Bridge.

Ramprakash batted for three-and-a-half hours before Graeme Swann caught him off Darren Pattinson's bowling.

Usman Afzaal hit 12 fours in a fluent 89, while Matthew Spriegel (51) and Chris Jordan (57 not out) both made their maiden first-class

fifties.

But it was mainly slow going as Surrey seek their first win of the season.

Ramprakash, who resumed on 19 not out, has seen his form dip somewhat since moving to the brink of his 100th ton, this being his ninth innings without reaching three figures.

Pattinson bowled well to end the day with figures of 4-56 for the leaders, but his aggressive celebrations may well put him in trouble with the authorities.

Jon Batty went for 21 early in the day, bowled by Pattinson, but Afzaal hit the ground running and quickly got the scoreboard ticking over -- in contrast to the more cautious Ramprakash.

Rain meant lunch was taken 10 minutes early and Ramprakash departed soon after, with Afzaal following him to the pavilion after an overly ambitious drive cost him his wicket.

Spriegel was caught at short leg off Swann and Matthew Nicholson then lofted spinner Samit Patel to long on with 10 overs left before Jordan and Saqlain Mushtaq saw their side through to the end of the day.

CA in a limbo

Cricket

CRICINFO, undated

Cricket Australia (CA) is yet to consider the position of players who refuse to tour Pakistan for the Champions Trophy. James Sutherland, the CA chief executive, said the board was currently interested in understanding the security issues and concerns and about whether the tournament will go ahead.

"Then we get down to the decision for us as to whether we're comfortable," Sutherland told the Age.

Australia have till August 15 to name their final squad for the Champions Trophy and Sutherland expects to have a better picture of the situation by then. "We have a high level of confidence in the consultants that have been engaged to work with ICC and the authorities in Pakistan. Now it is a matter of getting a better understanding in the coming couple of weeks from those consultants of how successful that implementation has been."

Andrew Symonds, the Australian allrounder, has expressed his reservations over

touring Pakistan, a country that in the past year has had a state of emergency imposed on it, suffered the assassination of a former prime minister, followed by riots and bomb attacks on two of its cities.

But other players, including Shane Watson and Nathan Hauritz, have said they will be happy to play anywhere as long as they get to represent Australia.

The Australian offspinner has echoed Watson's feelings on the Champions Trophy in Pakistan, saying he didn't care where he played as long he got to represent his country.

Watson had said he'd play anywhere but some Australian players, including Andrew Symonds, expressed their reservations on touring Pakistan, which had two bomb attacks on its cities in the past two weeks.

However Hauritz, who was named in Australia's 30-probables for the Champions Trophy, said getting the chance to play for the national team didn't happen all the time. "You can go to a number of places in this world that are dangerous," Hauritz, who last played for Australia in 2004, told the Sydney-based Daily Telegraph. "But at the end of the day it's not

my call and it's up to Cricket Australia. I'm sure they will do everything they can to make sure it's safe."

Peter Young, the Cricket Australia spokesman, made it clear the board wouldn't send players to a place that was dangerous. "We understand the players' concerns," Young said. "It is a concern of ours. International cricket is important to billions of fans around the world but, like Andrew (Symonds) said, 'It's only a game', and the issue is if we can justify sending our players anywhere where it might be dangerous."

Australia are expected to take a decision on whether or not to tour Pakistan in three weeks. While the board, along with New Zealand Cricket and the England board, had hired Reg Dickinson, an independent security expert, to visit Karachi and submit a report on the security measures for the Asia Cup, Cricket Australia's own operations chief, Michael Brown, is not expected back from his annual leave till next week, Young said.

Earlier this year Australia postponed their tour of Pakistan due to security concerns. They are now scheduled to visit the country for bilateral series in 2009 and 2010.

SA solid in 2nd innings

FROM PAGE 17

moment for South Africa when, off Sunday's second ball, McKenzie cover-drove Sidebottom for four.

Smith, who in the corresponding match five years ago made 259, the highest individual score by an overseas batsman in a Lord's Test, then struck an elegant late cut four off Broad.

Panesar as happened on Saturday, got turn out of the footmarks outside the left-hander's off-stump. This proved a problem for Smith, troubled by the 26-year-old Northamptonshire bowler either side of his escape.

However, after lunch, Smith repeatedly moved way outside his off-stump to counter Panesar's spin and, in the process, decreased his chances of being given out lbw.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at tea on the fourth day of the first Test between England and South Africa at Lord's in London on Sunday:  
ENGLAND: First innings 593-8 declared (Bell 199, Pietersen 152, Broad 76, Cook 60; Morkel 4-121, Harris 3-129)  
SOUTH AFRICA: First innings  
Smith c Bell b Anderson 8  
McKenzie b Panesar 40

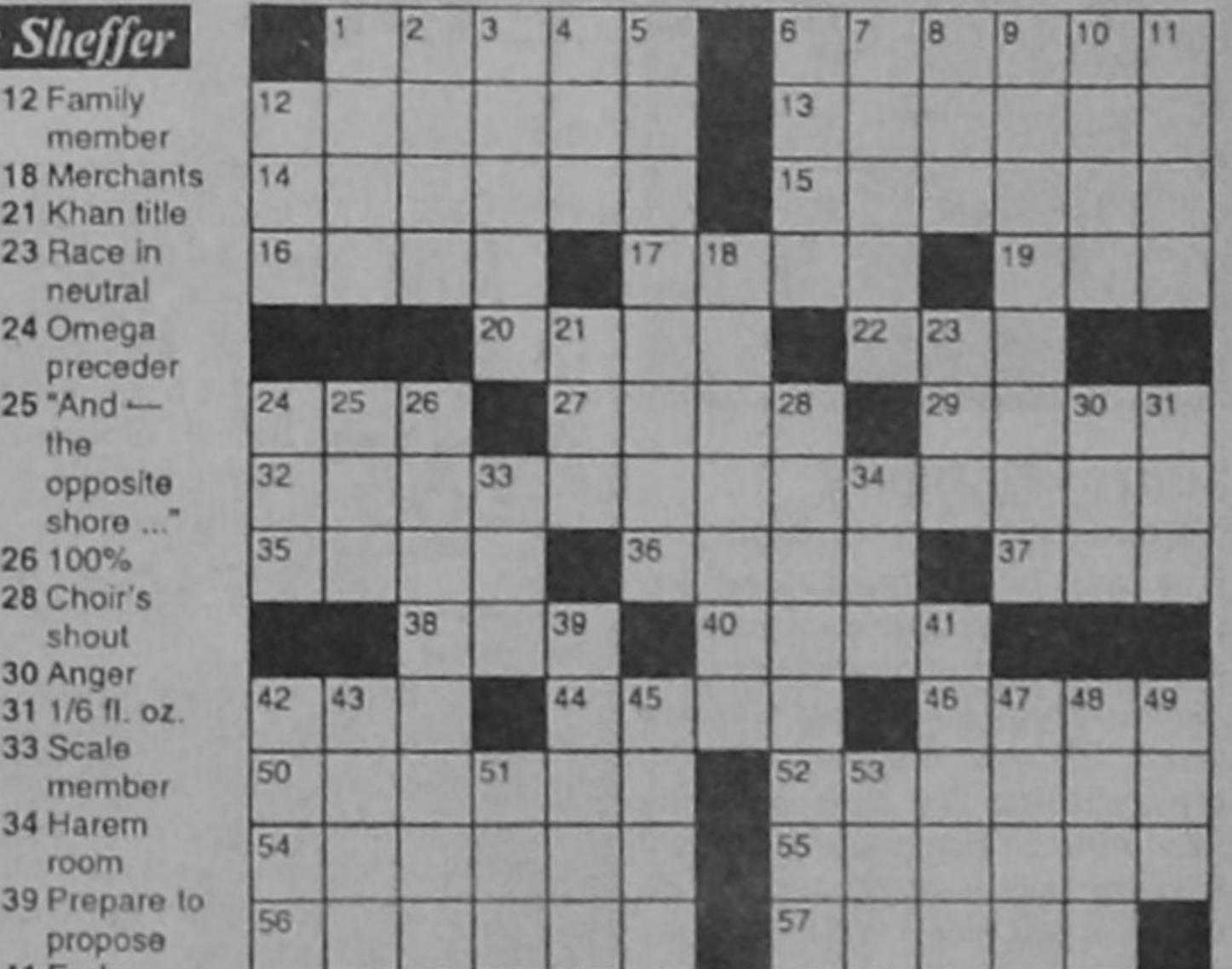
Amla c Ambrose b Broad	6
Kallis c Strauss b Sidebottom	7
Prince c Ambrose b Sidebottom	101
De Villiers c Anderson b Panesar	42
Boucher b Broad	4
Morkel b Panesar	6
Harris c Anderson b Panesar	6
Steyn c Sidebottom b Pietersen	19
Ntini not out	0
Extras: (b-1, lb-4, w-3)	8
Total: (All out in 93.3 overs)	247
Fall of wickets: 1-13, 2-28, 3-47, 4-83, 5-161, 6-168, 7-191, 8-203, 9-245	

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Sidebottom	19	3	41	2
Anderson	21	7	36	1
Broad	23	3	88	2
Panesar	26	4	74	4
Collingwood	4	1	3	0
Pietersen	0.3	0	0	1

SOUTH AFRICA: Second innings (overnight 13-0)				
Smith not out				71
McKenzie not out				50
Extras: (b-4, lb-3)				7
Total: (For no loss in 60 overs)				128
Bowler	O	M	R	W
Panesar	20	6	42	0
Pietersen	3	1	8	0
Sidebottom	12	5	16	0
Anderson	14	4	37	0
Broad	9	3	18	0
Collingwood	2	2	0	0

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	36 Prospector's hope	57 Super-market section	12 Family member
1 Cryptanalyst's concerns	37 Agt.		18 Merchants
6 Bizet master-work	38 Sort	DOWN	21 Khan title
12 Unknown to but a few	40 Paper quantity	1 Minimal change	23 Race in neutral
13 Very specialized knowledge	42 Pitch sports	2 Twice as	24 Omega precursor
14 Exist by nature	44 1968-84 sports	3 Reverie	25 "And -- the opposite shore --"
15 Lots of Old	46 Scandalous metropolis	4 Always, in verse	26 100%
17 Squared	50 Bagan	5 Helmsman's job	28 Choir's shout
19 Subject of the first book "for Dummies"	52 Commotion	6 Give a hoot	30 Anger
20 Stallion's stable-mate	54 Counted	7 Athletics venue	31 1/6 fl. oz.
22 Exist	55 Give a charge	8 -- Victor	33 Scale member
24 Slapstick missile	56 Tennyson's "of the King"	9 Seasick-ness	34 Harem room
27 Actress		10 Inner (Pref.)	39 Prepare to propose
29 Send forth		11 Unfavorable votes	41 Early periods
32 D.H. Lawrence novel			42 Actress
35 Grooving on			43 Copied
			44 Gels
			45 To the bottom of what?
			47 Dirt
			48 Lounge about
			49 Galena or cinnabar
			51 Goose egg
			53 Lava dish



CRYPTOQUIP  
HON EOBL RN EHHN OWE  
MNDJ DNKNVHGJ WUBQHNU W  
VNL HBSDXER EGBTWV  
"RXEESDX GBMNE KBQWVJ."  
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WOULD A FAMOUS DR. SEUSS CHARACTER WHO IS FOUND TO BE A TOTAL FRAUD BE NAMED SHAM-I-AM?  
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: H equals T