Muralidaran

Muttiah Muralidaran has said

he knew Mahela Jayawardene

was planning to quit the cap-

taincy but the decision on

Wednesday left the team in

shock. Jayawardene said he

was stepping down to give his

successor enough time to

settle down before the 2011

World Cup, but Muralidaran

felt off-field politics had also

decision to resign was a shock

wrote in his syndicated col-

umn. "I knew that he had been

thinking about the best time to

stand down for several

months. However, knowing

Mahela well, it was no surprise

that he chose to leave on his

field pressure and politics, as

any captain does in Sri Lanka,

and then walked away with his

Muralidaran pointed to

Jayawardene's impressive

record as captain of the Test

team over the last three years -

- his win-loss ratio of 62.5 per

cent is the best by a Sri Lankan

captain -- and said his ability

to manage the younger play

ers and see the team through

the transition phase was

Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB)

chief selector Abdul Qadir has

of-form Shahid Afridi insisting

that a player of his talent

deserves to be a part of the

Qadir defended Afridi's

selection in the probables list

for the upcoming Test series

against Sri Lanka and said the

right-hander was a rare com-

modity who could bat, bowl

and field with equal expertise.

one cricketer. He is very talented

and even if he fails with the bat

he can do well with the ball and

he is a very good fielder," the

in 2007 which India went on to

win, also said he will not be

turning out for the Twenty20

sion not to play then [in 2007].

I do not want to disturb the

present winning combina

tion. The team is doing well

and I do not want to be part of

Tendulkar is the world's

He has played in only one

Meanwhile PTI adds from

leading batsman with 12,429

runs in Tests and 16,440 in

Twenty20 international -

against South Africa -- in 2006.

Chennai, off-spinner

Harbhajan Singh and pacer

Munaf Patel are set to return for

the New Zealand tour when the

selectors meet in Chennai today

likely to retain most of the

players who played in the just-

concluded one-day series

against Sri Lanka. The Indians

won the series by an emphatic

4-1 margin and most of the

players chipped in with useful

series which starts in

Hamilton from March 18 will

Sri Lanka due to a hamstring

injury, and Munaf, who injured

himself after playing the first

The squad for the Test

Harbhajan, who did not tour

contributions.

be picked later.

The national selectors are

to pick the ODI and T20 squad.

the Twenty20 set-up."

one-dayers.

"It was a conscious deci-

matches in New Zealand.

"I look at Afridi as a three in

thrown his weight behind out

Qadir bats

for Afridi

"He endured lots of off-

own accord.

head held high."

"brilliant".

PTI, Karachi

national team.

"Mahela Jayawardene's

contributed to the decision.

CRICINFO, Colombo

Trio starts with wins

SPORTS REPORTER

Brothers, Eskaton and Indira Road began their campaigns with a victory each in the Dhaka First Division Cricket League yesterday.

In a curtailed game of 39 overs-a-side, the Baridhara Dazzlers were handed a sixwicket defeat by Brothers at the Dhaka University Ground. Chasing a stiff target of 222 runs, Brothers finished at 223-4 in 37.5 overs. Rony top scored for the winners with 72 and Prasenjeet was the other notable scorer with 45.

At the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium, Eskaton emerged victorious by 26 runs against Rupali Bank after putting 160-9 in the stipulated 36 overs. Eskaton's Rezaul played a fine knock of 47 runs while Raihan bowled well to pick up 4 wickets for 31 runs. The bankers looked good in their chase with Jobaidur(41) and Rezwan(31) striking up a partnership but eventually fell 26 shy of the winning target.

Indira Road notched their first win of the league beating Dhaka Wanderers by four wickets at the City Club Ground. It was the shortest match of the day (24 overs-aside) where Wanderers batted first and posted a reasonable total of 128-9 on the board in their allotted quota of overs. Indira's Farid took a fourwicket haul, as his team chased 129 at the expense of six wickets in 23.2 overs later.

ICL cancels W Series

CRICINFO, undated

The Indian Cricket League (ICL) has hit recession mode with a series of moves that reflect the current economic realities. The World Series Twenty20 tournament, scheduled for March, now stands cancelled, and payments to players have been put on hold until the management completes a stringent performance review that could lead to downgrading of payments and even sackings.

Himanshu Mody, the business head of the ICL, said the non-availability of Pakistan players -- Lahore Badshahs are the ICL's biggest draw -was the other major reason for the cancellation of the March tournament, which will be replaced by one involving Indian players. The October edition of the World Series is on schedule as of now.

Several other initiatives have also been lined up, including a talent-spotting programme in schools across India," Mody told Cricinfo.

That apart, the ICL is also trying to plug some glaring holes from the last season and has terminated the contracts of Chris Cairns and Dinesh Mongia, who were asked to leave midway through the last season. The official line is that the two have been sacked because of non-performance.

Significantly, the ICL is undertaking a major review of its existing contracts and it is understood that the performances of 18 out of 85 Indian players and 15-16 from a pool of 70 foreign players are under the scanner. Players who fail to perform will either be released or asked to sign up again for a lesserfee.

Three prominent Indian players, two from Australia, and one from Pakistan have confirmed to Cricinfo that their payments have been delayed and said no timeframe has been specified so far. While the players claimed that payments for 2-3 months are to be paid, ICL officials said that dues up to December have been cleared.

34 Wield

ma

41 "Listen!"

again?

47 Stir-fry

scissors

member

CROSSWORD

4 Anything 35 Family

12 - Got a 40 Blue,

15 Cotton or 46 Never

Secret"

holders 37 Incorrect

ACROSS

Aus-NZ 'final' today

Cricket

CRICINFO, Brisbane

Despite four matches in two weeks, the Chappell-Hadlee Series comes down to one game as the fifth and final one-day international between Australia and New Zealand takes place at the Gabba today. After the Kiwis earned a surprise 2-0 lead, they gave up the next two contests to an Australian side playing in a more familiar style, with their big-name runmakers re-emerging from hibernation and the bowlers finding more ways to subdue the fighting, but under-manned tourists.

However, New Zealand remain surprised and pleased to be in with a chance of winning. No matter what happens in this game, the young side will go home with extra belief after up-ending the hosts in such a dramatic way early in the series. The fast bowlers will have extra responsibility on a friendly surface and must delay Australia's opening batting charges if they are to have a chance of lifting the trophy they last won in 2006-07.

Australia's players, who were hurt and upset by the initial defeats, roared back in Sydney and Adelaide, and will be intent on not wasting this hard-earned position. Ricky Ponting might end the Australian campaign with a trophy -- his only team prize so far this season came during Taylor, Grant Elliott, Neil Broom, Kyle Mills the Test series against New Zealand -- but it Daniel Vettori (captain), Tim Southee, Jeetan won't be enough to mask the most disappoint- Patel, Iain O'Brien.

FROM PAGE 17

DIV3 SOCCER

points.

players followed her with four

Ali and Rony scored in the

second half as Rainbow AC

came from a goal down to

beat Rahmatganj SC 2-1 in

the Citycell 3rd Division

Football league at the

Shaheed Birshreshtha

Mostafa Kamal Stadium in

Kamalapur. Rahmatganj led

the first half 1-0 through

Farhad, Nasir and Pulak

scored in PWD's 3-0 defeat of

Bangladesh Football

Federation's (BFF) trial for

under-15 football camp

began at the Bangabandhu

National Stadium with 54

players taking part on the

opening day. The Group 1

Hasanuzzaman Babloo,

Sheikh Mohammed Aslam,

Kaikobad, Motaleb Hossain,

national coach Shafiqul Islam

Manik, BFF technical director

Shahidur Rahman Shantoo

and SZ Yusuf were present as

coach Edson Dido Silva was

BFF's selection for the U-

13 development football

festival ahead of AFC's U-13

Farashganj, who crashed 4-0

to Brothers in the first-leg,

came back strongly when

Nigerian striker Kalu Johnson

escaped down the right wing

and chipped the ball with his

right foot in the 54th minute.

The ball dipped but Zia

Four minutes later, Liton's

palmed it away from his line.

freekick from the right went

out harmlessly after kissing

the top of the crossbar as the

riversiders stayed alive for a

fightback. They got a golden

chance in the 76th minute

when Enamul got beyond the

opposition defence.

However, Enamul --

Farashganj's top scorer with

11 goals -- delayed inside the

area as Mishu came from

behind to shield the shot that

went wide.

19 Work-

bench attach-

ment

sovereign

22 Agent 86

25 Bridge

26 Apiary

27 Sacred

bird

critter

wading

28 Gratuities

37 38 39

23 Deficiency | 29

20 Persian

By Eugene Sheffer

phrases 21 Strombol

DOWN

1 Pen

name?

Gardner

2 Actress

4 Implied

Lance

8 Capital

Saudi

7 Bribe

Brothers' 9th

also present.

FROM PAGE 17

Former national booters

trial concludes today.

In the other match,

Liton's 22nd minute goal.

Rampura KC.

BFFTRIALS

LOCAL SNIPPETS

festival to be held in Iran in

May will conclude tomorrow.

INT'L JUNIOR TENNIS

The Dhaka Bank 23rd

International Junior Tennis

Tournament will begin

tomorrow at the Ramna

and sports Ahad Ali Sarker is

expected to formally open the

including 107 boys and 52

girls from Bangladesh and 15

countries, will take part in the

seven-day meet, sponsored

KERANIGANJ CRICKET

Nekrozbagh SUS defeated

Jinjirabagh KC by 115 runs in

the Keraniganj Cricket

and scored 270-8 in 35 overs

before bowling out

Jinjirabagh for 155 with ten

Muslimbagh KC (170) beat

Begunbaru KC (90) by 80 runs.

Dhaka University's Jagannath

Hall held their annual sports

competition at its own

ground, Sukanto Kumar of

pion and Ujjal Sarkar of

Siddiq was present during the

sped into the penalty area

and clinically finished, putt-

ing the ball beyond

outrushing custodian Al

Amin for his sixth league goal.

campaign on February 17 --

the final day of the league --

with Farashganj facing

Sheikh Russel in Dhaka and

Brothers playing away

against Chittagong

BROTHERS: Zia, Aurup,

Ashraful, Akramuzzaman

Liton, Mishu, Zahid, Liton

(Roni), Matiur Munna, Shakil,

FARASHGANJ: Al Amin,

Ramjan, Emeka, Mamun Mia,

Rajib, Kabir, Khokon, Dominic,

Faisal (Rintu), Enamul

26 27 28

Tapu (Parvez) and Henry.

(Mamun) and Johnson.

Mohammedan.

TEAMS

CRYPTOQUIP

RPS OTZPR BCTRLP KEE

CPSW TR'B WKR TW VBS

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHY DOES THE SERVER

AT OUR DINER ALWAYS GET ILL? I BELIEVE IT

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: E equals F

MUST BE SOMETHING IN THE WAITER.

It was all over when Zahid Referee: Shahidul Islam.

Both teams end their

occasion as the chief guest.

DUVice-Chancellor Arefin

Philosophyrunner-up.

In another match

balls left in the innings.

DUSPORTS

selectors. Brazilian head Accounting became cham-

The winners batted first

by Dhaka Bank Limited.

State Minister for Youth

A total of 159 participants,

National Tennis complex.

meet a day later.

ing home summer since he entered the Australian set-up in 1995-96.

Michael Clarke, who has struggled with a hand problem since December, is now battling an upper-back injury and did not train during the optional session on Thursday. If Clarke isn't fit, Australia will consider picking Peter Siddle in a bowler-heavy squad, leaving James Hopes as an opening option. In a rare sign of consistency Australia fielded an unchanged outfit on Tuesday -- for the first time in 17 matches -- and Ponting would prefer not to make any more alterations.

Brendon McCullum's shoulder will not stop him from playing and Daniel Vettori's hamstring is fine, so New Zealand's only choice is between using the extra batsman in Craig Cumming and employing slow-bowling support for Vettori. Jeetan Patel, the off-spinner, was left out in Adelaide but even though the Gabba is made for quicks, the extra bounce might tempt them to return to the dual spin that was successful in the opening two games.

TEAMS AUSTRALIA (probable): Michael Clarke, Brad Haddin, Ricky Ponting (captain), David Hussey, Michael Hussey, Callum Ferguson, Cameron White, James Hopes, Mitchell Johnson, Nathan Bracken, Ben Hilfenhaus.

NEW ZEALAND (probable): Brendon McCullum, Martin Guptill, Peter Fulton, Ross

Modi in trouble

Troubled Rajasthan Cricket Association president and Indian Premier League (IPL) chairman Lalit Modi has landed into fresh controversy after the Nagrik Morcha has demanded a probe against him for not depositing the promised sum to the chief minister's benevolent fund.

The state convener of the Mishra, told reporters that during the first edition of the IPL, Modi had announced they would deposit six crore rupees to the chief minister's relief fund for victims of bomb blast that rocked the pink city on May 13, 2008.

"After the match between Rajasthan Royals and Mumbai Indians on May 17 at SMS Stadium Jaipur, Modi had presented a cheque of six crore rupees to then CM Vasundhara Raje but in reality the said amount was never deposited," alleged Mishra.

Sri Lanka

FROM PAGE 17

a spot of bother at 15-3 in just the fourth over. But, skipper Sashikala Siriwardene played a captain's knock of 66 runs in 72 balls, with ten fours and a six.

At 145-7, Sri Lanka did not look like they will reach 200 but a late partnership between E. Kaushaly (26) and Manodarat(25) saw the islanders finish at 207-9. Opening bowler Asmavia Igbal and the in-form Javeria Khan took two wickets apiece.

Pakistan made a good start with a 35 run opening stand but when wickets started tumbling one after the other, they soon found themselves at 49-4. Urooj Mumtaz Khan, played a subdued innings of 17 from 57 balls to bring some solace to the innings but in the end Pakistan

were bowled out for 97. Bowlers Alwis and Fernando claimed three wickets each to seal Sri Lanka's place in the final at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur.

Hosts Bangladesh will take on the Lankans today at the same venue.

BRIEFSCORE

SRI LANKA: 207-9 in 34 overs (Siriwardene 66, extras 29; Asmavia 2-23, Javeria 2-43) PAKISTAN: 92 in 33.3 overs (Urooj 17, extras 17; Fernando 3-14, Alwis 3-10)

PTI, Jaipur

Nagrik Morcha, Pandit Suresh

NZ tour FROM PAGE 17

formerleg-spinnersaid.

for his eighth international goal in 25 appearances. World Twenty20 Marseille keeper Championship in South Africa

FROM PAGE 17

Mandanda was more alert moments later when he held a Javier Zanetti drive to keep the deficit at just one goal.

The pace of the match dropped markedly after the break but Philippe Mexes might easily have levelled as Karim Benzema while he headed over Ribery's corner six minutes after the things around, sending on

Messi and attacking partner Angeleri for Rodriguez and Sergio Aguero were still giving cause for occasional palpitations in the French backline while Ribery was still harrying the visiting defence - Maxi Rodriguez earning a yellow card for trying to curb the Bayern Munich star's enthusi-

asm with a crunching tackle. Defender Bacary Sagna did despairing Mandanda.

to make his own imprint."

Mahela explains why

AFP, Colombo

Mahela Jayawardene said on Thursday his poor form in recent one-day matches was a factor in his decision to resign as captain of Sri Lanka.

Cricket

standards I had set myself," Jayawardene, 31, told reporters a day after deciding to step down as captain after the upcoming Test series in

"I have been thinking about it for a while and February 21. it was the right decision made at the right time,' to the team," Muralidaran he said.

The middle-order batsman, who scored just one half-century in his last 17 one-day innings, said he gave up the captaincy so that his successor could build a team for the 2011 World Cup.

Sri Lanka are one of the co-hosts of the showpiece one-day event, along with India, Pakistan and Bangladesh.

Long-time deputy Kumar Sangakkara is inno-results. widely tipped to take over as Sri Lanka's captain, with Jayawardene confirming "there is an Karachi from February 21-25, while the second obvious successor to the throne."

"This is the ideal time to leave my successor March 1-5.

Jayawardene, named the International Cricket Council's captain of the year for 2006. said the decision to resign was his own and not based on any outside influence.

Media reports said the selectors had proposed to split the Test and one-day captaincy. so that Jayawardene could lead in the longer "I was not making runs according to the version of the game while his successor took over the one-day role.

Jayawardene said he wanted to contribute both as leader and top-order batsman during the two-Test series against Pakistan starting on

I want the team to win the series for me," he

said. Jayawardene guided Sri Lanka to the World Cup final in the West Indies in 2007, where they lost to Australia.

He captained Sri Lanka in 26 Tests, winning 15, losing seven with four draws.

In 94 one-day internationals under him, Sri Lanka won 54 and lost 35 while the rest ended

The first Test in Pakistan will be played in and final match will be played in Lahore from

England aim to level

cope with it.

FROM PAGE 17

need to make whatever adjustments are necessary individually to become better, sooner rather than later."

Gayle admitted that a single Test victory -- as dramatic as the opening Test was -- will not be enough to satisfy his side, let alone their fans, that they have turned the proverbial corner.

"We're not going to be lackadaisical for sure," he said. "But we will not put any addibecause the expectations are Owais Shah. going to be high. People are going to be looking for us to go out there and do even better.

some good, simple, basic cricket like what we did in Jamaica. People said we batted too slow in the opening Test, but patient innings really, really count, since time is very important, especially in a Test match.

Messi steals

West Indies captain Chris key as well because we know that England will be coming hard at us."

Though the team management have called for cool heads to prevail, England are

more than likely to make changes to their line-up. Two soft dismissals and the rising tide of criticism should

tional pressure on ourselves see Ian Bell lost his place to Monty Panesar's hardly fruitful toil on a pitch where

Sulieman Benn snared eight "But we just need to play wickets places him under the microscope with Graeme Swann waiting. Steve Harmison and Ryan

Sidebottom looked way below their best and James Anderson presents a viable alternative. Though there could be few

his best to galvanise a French

revival with a fine run midway

through the second period but

neither Anelka nor Henry were

able to get on the end of his

cross from the right as the

Arsenal past-and-present

disappointing Anelka at that

point, sending on Lyon starlet

Maradona also switched

debutant Marcos Alberto

Carlos Tevez for Aguero, the

1986 world champion

embracing both of the men he

paid dividends as Messi

latched onto a Tevez flick, then

stepped on the accelerator to

smash a meaty drive past the

The move immediately

Domenech withdrew the

move fizzled out.

had taken off.

"So it's going to be really complaints about their bat-

important for us to stick to the ting in the opening Test, West basics. We have to take it one Indies chose to fortify their step at a time and see how we batting reserves. They have brought left-

"The first session will be handed all-rounder Ryan Hinds and utility player Lendl Simmons into their 14member squad

But the selectors face a difficult choice about how to accommodate either or both of them, since only one sure place has opened up in the batting, following the omission of Xavier Marshall. TEAMS

WEST INDIES (from): Chris Gayle (captain), Lionel Baker, Sulieman Benn, Shivnarine Chanderpaul, Fidel Edwards, Ryan Hinds, Brendan Nash, Daren Powell, Denesh Ramdin, Ramnaresh Sarwan, Lendl Simmons, Devon Smith, Jerome Taylor. ENGLAND (from): Andrew

Strauss (captain), Alastair Cook, Tim Ambrose, James Anderson, Ian Bell, Stuart Broad, Paul Collingwood, Andrew Flintoff, Steve Harmison, Monty Panesar, Kevin Pietersen, Matt Prior, Adil Rashid, Owais Shah, Ryan Sidebottom, Graeme Swann.

Super Cup

FROM PAGE 17 two-crore event, expected to be sponsored by BFF's 'part-

ner in progress' Citycell. The BFF wants to bring the good old crowd back to the grounds after the ongoing B. League virtually failed to do so.

The format of the tournament has yet to be finalised but BFF officials confirmed that the winners will get Tk one crore, the runners-up Tk 25 lakh and the four semifinals Tk5 lakh each.

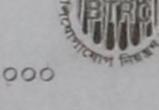
The remaining teams of the eight-team meet will also get appearance money and the BFF is contemplating ringing foreign referees for the semifinals and the final to avoid any type of controversy.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

বাংলাদেশ টেলিযোগাযোগ নিয়ন্ত্রণ কমিশন

আইইবি ভবন (५४, १४ ७ ४४ ०ना), त्रमना, जाका-১०००

বাংলাদেশ টেলিযোগাযোগ নিয়ন্ত্রণ কমিশন (বিটিআরসি)'র নিষেধাজ্ঞা



অবৈধ VoIP সংক্রান্ত জরুরি বিজ্ঞপ্তি

অমান্য করে কতিপয় অসাধু চক্র অবৈধভাবে ভিওআইপি (ভয়েস ওভার ইন্টারনেট প্রটোকল) প্রযুক্তি ব্যবহার করে কল টারমিনেশন কার্যক্রম চালিয়ে याटि । এর ফলে সরকার বিপুল পরিমাণ রাজস্ব হারাচেছ। সাধারণত বৈধ পদ্ধতিতে কল আসলে কলকারীর নম্বর প্রদর্শন হওয়ার তবে ইদানিং লক্ষ্য করা গেছে, বিদেশ থেকে আগত কলে কোন মোবাইল বা ল্যাভ ফোন নম্বর প্রদর্শন করছে এক্ষেত্রে প্রদর্শিত দেশীয় নম্বরটি অবৈধ ভিওআইপি ব্যবসার কাজে ব্যবহৃত হয়ে থাকতে পারে। এরকম কোন নম্বর হতে বিদেশের কল রিসিভ করলে অবিলম্বে বিটিআরসিকে SMS অথবা ফোন অথবা e-mail করে নম্বরটি জানিয়ে দিন। এক্ষেত্রে তথ্য প্রদানকারীর ব্যক্তিগত সব তথ্য গোপন রাখা হবে। দেশের বৃহত্তর স্বার্থ রক্ষায় এগিয়ে আসুন, বিটিআরসিকে এ সংক্রান্ত সব তথ্য দিয়ে সহায়তা করুন।

SMS নম্বর- ০১৫৫২২০২৭৩২

e-mail - voip@btrc.gov.bd

ODI in Dambulla, are certain to makeittothe ODI squad.

BKSP from a precarious 99-7. The number seven batter who shared two significant partnerships, 47 for the eighth 22, Mashud 11, Hasan 3-36, wicket and 27 in 14 deliveries Mehrab 2-33) for the unbroken last wicket, cracked five fours and two sixes in an explosive 55 not out VICTORIA: 168-9 in 32 overs off 41 balls.

Majumder (31).

CCS-CITYCLUB

At BKSP, Pakistani opener

SCORES IN BRIEF

Old DOHS: 183-9 in 37 overs (Imtiaz 58, Wasim 18, Riyad 35, Ejaj 27, Delwar 3-37, Rajin 4-

SURJO TORUN: 178-8 in 37 overs (Sharma 58, Junaid 23, Hannan 23, Rajin 24, Anisur Result: Old DOHS won by five

runs.

(Amit 31, Arman 42, Ashraful Earlier, Arman Hossain top 28, Sharifullah 10, Tapash 20*,

> BKSP: 173-9 in 31.2 overs (Saikat 13, Mominul 28, Zabid 12, Furkan 20, Haider 55*, Riaz 21, Aslam 2-19, Sharifullah 3-

Result: BKSP won by one CITY CLUB: 141 all out in 36.5

overs 9Rasel 37, Raisul 31, Saif 24, Mayshekur 13, Monwar 3-41, Elias 2-21) CCS: 144-2 in 26.3 overs

38, Lalmon 1-20)

DOHS, BKSP win

FROM PAGE 17

scored 42 for the inserted Rifatuzzaman 2-37, Furkan 2-Victoria, who failed to bank on 38, Mominul 2-24) a 72-run opening stand between Arman and Amit

Shahbaz Butt hammered an unbeaten 79 off 81 balls with nine fours and one six to help CCS race to 144-2 in reply to City Club's 141 all out. The match was shortened to 40overs a-side.

(Uttam 13, Shahbaz 79*, Elias 32, Shuvagata 13*, Shafaq 1-

wickets.

ফোন নম্বর- ৭১৬২২৭৭ এক্স-২২২

Result: CCS won by eight

জিডি-৭৯৬

বিটিআরসি

home plate, maybe recording sash stripe

