

Two-day match ends in a draw

SPORTS REPORTER

Sri Lanka Under-19s showed strong batting performance as Dinesh Chandimal and Banuka Rajapaksha slammed hundreds on the final day of the two-day practice match against BCB Development Squad at BKSP yesterday.

The match as expected ended in a draw as the BCB side came up with solid reply in their second innings. The home boys reached 117 for one when the umpires called time.

Mohammad Rubel put the visiting bowlers to the sword by smashing ten fours and two sixes during his unbeaten 71-ball 73 while his opening partner Saddam Khan added 25 off 32 deliveries.

Earlier, the visitors were bowled out for 369 runs after resuming the day on 110 for two wickets.

Chandimal, who started the day on 60, made 106 off 157 balls with sixteen boundaries before retiring while

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## Camp begins today

T20 WC squad cut down to 21



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Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) announced a 21-member squad on Monday to take part in the training camp for the ICC World Twenty20 to be held in England in June.

The national selection panel led by Rafiqul Alam has reduced the training squad from the preliminary 30-member team as preparation starts from today for the 12-team meet.

Bangladesh have been pitted in Group A along with defending champions India and ICC associate member Ireland in the second epi-

### SQUAD

Mohammad Ashraful, Mashrafe Bin Mortaza, Tamim Iqbal, Zunaid Siddiqui, Rokibul Hassan, Shakib Al Hasan, Mashfiqur Rahim, Nayeem Islam, Abdur Razzak, Shahadat Hossain, Syed Rasel, Mehrab Hossain, Imrul Kayes, Mahmudullah Riyad, Nazmul Hossain, Mahbubul Alam, Rubel Hossain, Ziaur Rahman, Shamsur Rahman, Sohravordi Shuvo and Mohammad Mithun.

ode of the ICC World Twenty20 which will kick off on June 5.

The axe fell on opener Hannan Sarker, wicketkeeper Sahagir Hossain, young batsman Marshall Ayub, experienced pacer Tareq Aziz Khan, opener Rony Talukdar, all-rounder Nasir Hossain, spinner Arafat Sunny, pacers Robiul Islam and Dollar Mahmud.

"This squad is also a combination of experience and youth as the young players like Shamsur Rahman, (Sohrawordi) Shuvo and (Mohammad) Mithun are in the side. We rewarded almost all the players in the 30-member team like Hannan who played well on the domestic circuit and considered those for the shortened list who could be a good choice for the final team," said chief selector Rafiqul.

The 15-member final squad will be officially announced in the first week of May.

"The players who have not been picked in the shortened squad are not out of our consideration. These cricketers will be available for selection in the Bangladesh A, Under 19 and Academy teams," said the chief selector giving hope to the players who failed to make the 21-member team.

"Not only that we also instructed the team

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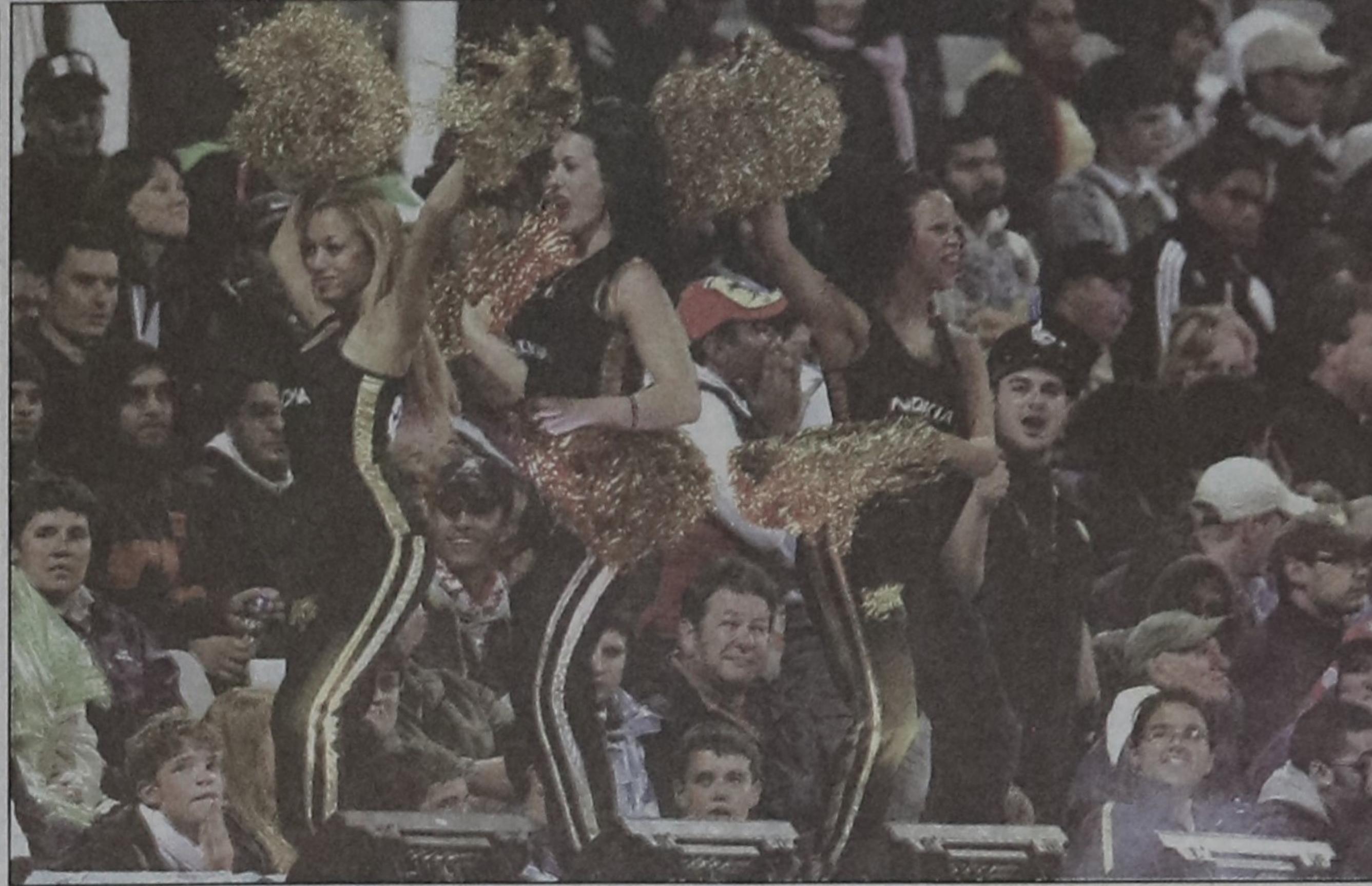


PHOTO: AFP

GENTLEMAN'S GAME GETTING CRAZY! The slam-bang Twenty20 has brought something in cricket that can be best described as an excess of glamour. Here three cheerleaders -- who are definitely not in indecent attires like many others -- entertain the fans at Newlands in Cape Town during the Indian Premier League Twenty20 match between Kolkata Knight Riders and Deccan Chargers on Sunday.

## Sachin doesn't like it

CRICINFO, undated

The Indian Premier League's (IPL) new 'tactical timeout' is hampering the momentum of a team in a Twenty20 match, Mumbai Indians captain Sachin Tendulkar has said. The seven-and-a-half-minute break in the middle of an innings has also been criticised by Mumbai off-spinner Harbhajan Singh, who told NDTV he did not like it because it 'breaks the rhythm'.

"Yes, we have done well in our last match but I think the strategy breaks are hampering the momentum of a team," Tendulkar said. "The seven-and-a-half-minute breaks are a bit too long."

Mumbai began their IPL campaign by beating Chennai Super Kings by 19 runs in Cape Town on Saturday and Chennai's head of

cricket operations, VB Chandrasekhar, was also not pleased by the scheduled break.

"The seven and a half minute break after 10 overs is quite a distraction and comes in the way of valuable momentum, but that is something all teams will have to live with this year," Chandrasekhar wrote in his blog on the team's website. "Further, we had an unscheduled break of seven to eight minutes with a magnificent black canine holding centre stage amid hilarious scenes never before witnessed."

Chandrasekhar, a former India batsman and ex-national selector, is not the only credible face in the IPL to have voiced concerns about the timeout that was introduced to show more commercials on Indian television. Tom Moody, the Kings XI Punjab coach, admitted on Sunday that the timeout had affected his

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BFF seeks Tk. 25cr from govt

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) president Kazi Salahuddin has appealed to the finance minister for an allotment of Tk. 25 crore in the next budget for the development of football at the grass root level.

Finance Minister AMA Muhith has assured the BFF boss that his appeal would be

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## Prisoners protest IPL TV ban

AFP, Kolkata

Hundreds of inmates at a prison in Kolkata have gone on hunger strike after they were not allowed to watch Indian Premier League cricket matches, officials said Monday. BD Sharma, the inspector general of West Bengal prisons, said the protest began after guards rejected prisoners'

demands to be able to watch the matches taking place in South Africa that are being broadcast on a private channel.

"They are free to watch the national channels aired by the state-run network, but we can't allow inmates to watch private channels for security reasons. We have to go by the rules," Sharma told AFP.

The protest, by 500 inmates at the Alipore Central Jail in Kolkata, was continuing

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## VB is back

SPORTS REPORTER

The Asian Football Confederation's (AFC) Vision Bangladesh (VB) programme will have a fresh start to raise the standard of country's football at all levels.

AFC's project director of Vision India Imtiaz Rehman made this remark yesterday while talking with the reporters after a successful meeting with Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) officials at their Motijheel headquarters.

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