



Action from yesterday's AFC Challenge Cup Group-A qualifying clash between Cambodia and Macau at the Bangabandhu National Stadium.

Kaneria awaits Twenty20 call

AFP, London

After missing out on the chance to impress in the Indian Premier League (IPL), leg-spinner Danish Kaneria is hoping his performances for Essex will persuade Pakistan's selectors to include him in their squad for the World Twenty20 here in June.

Kaneria, who was unable to feature in the IPL after Pakistan's government refused permission for players to travel to India, has never played 20-over cricket for his country and has not been in a one-day side since 2007.

But he has shown with Essex he can be a threat in the shorter format, taking 20 wickets last year in the Twenty20 Cup, the third biggest haul in the tournament.

"The Indian Premier League would have been the ideal platform to dismiss this impression that I cannot play Twenty20 cricket," Kaneria said.

"I have been doing well for Essex in this format for the last couple of years and I want to show people that I am not just a bowler suited to Test and first-class cricket," he said.

Bangladesh

FROM PAGE 17
Secretary Sirajuddin Md Alamgir and Vice President Ali Abbas conducted the open lottery for deciding the groupings of the teams.

"It seems that the A Group is much stronger but we have nothing to do with it since it's been decided on lottery in presence of all concerned. But we believe, the teams of other group doesn't stand that much chance," Sirajuddin Alamgir, also an executive member of Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB), told The Daily Star yesterday afternoon.

Meanwhile, six teams have so far confirmed foreign recruits of which five have completed their foreign recruits till filing of this report yesterday, according



Brett Lee

(Australia fast bowler)

"My aim is to try and play as much cricket as I can before the Ashes and the Twenty20 World Cup. There is no point me going back to Sydney and resting for two weeks; I may as well be playing competitive cricket." Prior to joining the national team in the UAE against Pakistan.



Water polo made its Olympic debut in 1900 and has remained an Olympic sport ever since.

Super-sub breaks

FROM PAGE 17
brought the result for Myanmar in the 67th minute when Pai Soe pushed home on a Myo Min Tun's cross with a delicate header and they enhanced the pressure to score the second goal in the 75th minute.

Match hero Pai Soe pushed the ball into the target from handshaking distance after Aminul failed to hold the ball from Yaza's fierce shot.

Enamul could be a hero again for Bangladesh for the successive second match as he headed Bangladesh home in the early eleventh minute on a Emon corner. Enamul also struck the match-winner against Cambodia in the first game.

But the sluggish defense and the ordinary midfield failed to capitalise on his early strike.

"Myanmar played a running game and our players lacked the required fitness. They trailed behind in fitness. But I am not blaming the young players rather I asked everybody to support these guys as they tried their best," Bangladesh's Brazilian coach Edson Silva Dido explained the reason's

behind his team defeat.

His Myanmar counterpart Utin Myint Aung was delighted with the way his charges bounced back from the one-goal down.

"I am very happy because the boys showed a splendid performance. It was amazing the way they put pressure on their opponents after conceding one goal," said Utin Myint Aung.

Red card: Nasir (Bangladesh).

Yellow cards: Mamun Miah and Manik (Bangladesh), Moe Win and Pyaye Phyo Oo (Myanmar).

TEAMS

MYANMAR: Kyaw Zin Htet, Moe Win, Khin Maung Lwin (Han Win Aung), Bo Bo Aung (Pai Soe), Zaw Htet Aung, Aung Myo Thant, Yaza Win Thein, Myo Min Tun, Myo Zaw Tun, Win Min Htet and Pyaye Phyo Oo (Aung Kyaw Myo).

BANGLADESH: Aminul, Nasir, Mamun Miah (Sujan), Rajani, Arman, Faisal, Mamunul (Emily), Meshu, Manik, Emon (Zahid) and Enamul.

Referee: Matsuo Hajime (Japan).

'Prove you weren't deported'

CRICINFO, undated

Pakistan fast bowler Mohammad Asif has yet to prove to a Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) committee that he was not deported from Dubai last year for possessing opium. Asif is currently serving a one-year ban after testing positive to the banned substance nandrolone last year.

The PCB plans to consider Asif for national selection once his ban is over, but formed a three-man committee to investigate his UAE detention. Former Pakistan wicketkeeper and now the PCB's director of human resources Wasim Bari, also the head of the committee, said Asif claimed during an inquiry that he wasn't deported.

Asif was stopped at Dubai Airport on June 1 after being caught with 0.24 grams of opium on his way back to Pakistan after playing in the IPL. He was detained for 19 days before eventually being deported.

Noble

SPORTS REPORTER

A 20-member squad representing Bangladesh Football Players' Welfare Association (BFPWA) will play a charity match against a team comprising of footballers from Cox's Bazar at the Cox's Bazar District Stadium today.

The match has been organised to raise funds for the medical treatment of Khaled who injured his knee while playing in the B.League last season.

The BFPWA team will play another match against the same team tomorrow at Boalkhali.

Sports secretary of BFPWA Abu Faisal Ahmed said the association will play more exhibition matches around the country to restore Khaled's career on the right path.

BFPWA SQUAD

Nakib, Jewel Rana, Alfaz, Joy, Arman, Abu, Faisal, Liton, Moni, Monwar, Shuvro, Jahangir, Anwarul, Apu, Mamun, Russel, Jony, Khokon, Milon, Parvez, Tapu.

Enamul beats Ramnath

SPORTS REPORTER

Grandmaster Enamul Hossain Rajib beat Indian rated player Ramnath Bhuvanes in the second round of the 11th Dubai Open Chess Championship yesterday.

He now has two points and share the lead with 24 other players.

Rajib will take on Kazakh GM Pavel Kotsur.

LOCAL SNIPPETS

SPORTS REPORTER

Rangamati made a fine start in Group C of the Exim Bank 19th National Handball competition in Rangamati yesterday.

The hosts won the group's opening match, defeating Sunamganj 14-11 before drawing 16-all with Dhaka.

Chittagong district crushed Feni 24-6 while Chittagong Metropolitan also scored a huge win over Chandpur, beating them 25-4.

In the day's last game, Bandarban slammed Feni 12-2.

MANIKGANJ CRICKET

Our Correspondent: Dasheda Palli Mongol Samity earned a 10-wicket victory over New Star Club on the opening day of the Colonel Malek Smriti First division Cricket League at the Shahid Miraz-Tapan Stadium in Manikganj yesterday.

Batting first, New Star were all out for only 63 runs in 26.3 overs with only Ujjal and Mamun reaching double figures by making 26 and 13 runs respectively. Champak took four wickets while Shahin and Lal took two each.

In reply, Dasheda made 66 runs easily in 8.2 overs with Nadim and Lal remaining not out on 33 and 28 runs respectively.

Jahid Malek Swapan MP formally inaugurated the league where eight teams are taking part.

BRAHMABARIA CRICKET

Our Correspondent: Surjo Tarun Cricket Club defeated Titas Cricket Club by 20 runs in the Shaheed Muktiuddha Rangu Mia Cup cricket tournament at the Shahjadapur High School playground.

Winning the toss, Surjo Tarun decided to bat first but were bowled out for just 80 runs in stipulated 25 overs. Monir struck 42.

In reply, Titas were bowled out for only 60 run in 19 overs with Monir also starring with the ball, picking up four wickets.

GAIBANDHA FOOTBALL

Our Correspondent: Eleven Star beat Bridge Road Sporting Club by a solitary goal in the Fariha Knit First Division Football League at the local stadium.

Shipon scored the all-important goal in the first half. Samannay Sangha will face Cricket Coaching Centre in today's match.

Under-19s

FROM PAGE 17
wicketkeeper-batsman Anamul Haque who blasted a six and three fours in his 64-ball 43.

Earlier, the visitors added just nine runs before paceman Kamrul Islam Rabbi picked up his fourth wicket for 58 runs.

Mohammedan

FROM PAGE 17
the runs. Shuktara smashed 20 off 16 balls.

Their arch-rivals Abahani won the toss and made 231 for six in 35 overs. Papiya struck 65 off just 83 balls with seven boundaries but the innings received its boost from Fatema who smashed two sixes in her 44-ball 45. Rubina took two wickets for the Khulna side.

But their batting suffered badly and with Jahanara, Champa and Jessy taking two wickets each, Khulna were bowled out for just 54 runs from 25.4 overs.

Tait may turn up late

CRICINFO, undated



Shaun Tait says he aims to play in the closing rounds of the IPL, despite Cricket Australia this month ruling him out of the tournament on medical grounds.

Tait returned to the nets this week after three months on the sidelines with a hamstring tear, and is hopeful of being cleared for the final stages of the Rajasthan Royals' campaign in South Africa.

Tait was the only senior Australian player to be selected in the 2009 IPL auction when purchased by Rajasthan for 375,000 dollars. The South Australian paceman was disappointed on learning of CA medical staff's intention to stand him down from the lucrative Twenty20 league, but believes he has now made sufficient progress in his recovery from injury to be reconsidered.

"I can get myself fit, and there is a window for the final two or three games, that would be fantastic," Tait told Cricinfo. "Because of the injury, Cricket Australia weren't keen to release me to play [in the IPL], which ruled me out of training and playing with Rajasthan. That was pretty frustrating, because it was something I wanted to be a part of. But now that I am back in the nets and feeling good, hopefully there's a chance there."

When fit, Tait has been an integral member of Australia's 50- and 20-over squads in recent seasons, and the right-arm rates himself a "50-50" chance of being named in the final 15-man line-up for the World Twenty20 in June. The IPL, he feels, represents an ideal opportunity to gain much needed match-practice ahead of the tournament, in which Australia

were defeated by India in the semi-finals in 2007.

"Obviously a lot of it depends on how I am going physically, but I feel good right at the moment," he said. "I will keep bowling in the nets, but it would definitely be good to get a few games under my belt. I'm not sure if I'm in the selectors' minds for the Twenty20 World Cup, but if so, then a few IPL games mightn't be a bad thing. And if there was the opportunity for a county stint before the one-dayers in England, then that would be great, too."

Tait has contended with a number of elbow, back and hamstring injuries in recent seasons, but remains willing to live with the physical consequences of his violent bowling action for the sake of pace. The 26-year-old said he was loath to tinker with the bowling action that propelled him from the suburban grounds of Adelaide to Kensington Oval, the scene of the 2007 World Cup final, and would consider standing down from the longer forms of the game to extend his career.

"At the end of the day, my action has got me this far," he said. "I am prepared to cop these injuries to keep bowling fast. Last year I probably targeted the shorter forms more. I think one-dayers and Twenty20s suit my style of game more. In the next three or four months, I'll see how I go. If I'm still feeling good playing four-day cricket then I'd be stupid to walk away, but if not then I'll have to have a think about it."

"I haven't bowled a ball in three months, so it's good to be pain-free again. I've learned a few ways that might help me manage my injuries better and keep myself strong. I'm sure I'll get injured again; that's just the way it is. Maybe that will mean missing a few games here and there, but hopefully I'll be able to manage things better."

Clarke a 'part-timer'

Cricket

CRICINFO, undated

Michael Clarke took 3 for 15, including two wickets off successive deliveries, to give Australia a 2-1 series lead against Pakistan in Abu Dhabi but has said that he will never be more than a part-time spinner.

Clarke top-scored with 66 to lead Australia to 198 before wrecking Pakistan's solid start, reducing them from 95 for 2 to 123 for 5. He and offspinner Nathan Hauritz took 5 for 40 between them while Andrew Symonds chipped in with 1 for 41 as Australia won the third ODI by 27 runs.

Clarke, however, played down his role with the ball. "In conditions that spin I can do an okay job, that part-time job I guess, but I'm certainly not a frontline spinner," Clarke told AAP. "I think Nathan Hauritz led the way with the ball and I thought [Andrew Symonds] did

a brilliant job as well. I tried to wait as long as possible before I had to bowl, to be honest.

"It's always good to bowl in conditions like that, when the ball's spinning, obviously it makes it a little bit harder to score. For me it was just about trying to put the ball in a half-decent area and hope some spin and some didn't and fortunately I had a little bit of luck."

While Australia's bowlers set up both victories by dismissing Pakistan cheaply, Clarke said the batsmen had to improve. "Nobody's made a hundred yet so I certainly don't think we've performed as well as we'd like with the bat," he said. "But we're backing our own ability, we're working out the most successful way for us individually to play the Pakistani bowlers and we're backing that to the hilt. I think that's all you can do in these conditions."

Australia have the chance to wrap up the series in the fourth ODI at Abu Dhabi on Friday.

Pathan powers

FROM PAGE 17

were Smith and Pathan, with the assurance of Mascarenhas to follow. Pathan seemed to have taken up from where he left off in the Super Over against Kolkata Knight Riders.

He needed two balls before unleashing his power. He first ended Daniel Vettori's enviable run, depositing him over deep midwicket off successive deliveries, and drilling one past him off the final ball to net 19 in a match-turning 13th over.

Delhi had their chances. Tillakaratne Dilshan missed an attempt to run Yusuf out in the very next over, and when 31 were needed off 21 deliveries, Sangwan spilled a running catch at long-on, again off Yusuf, palming the ball to the boundary to seal Delhi's fate. The next ball disappeared for six, spoiling Mishra's figures, and Nehra's next over saw two short balls dismissed with ferocity into the stands to hasten Rajasthan's win.

If Yusuf was brute force, Smith was quite the opposite. 19 runs in three innings did not bear testimony to his ability, and his determination to fight it out was well on display as he flicked, nudged, dabbled and swept to ensure

the runs kept coming, though he kept his own natural game on hold, taking 14 overs to strike his second boundary. A combination Yusuf's power game and Smith's measured tenacity put Rajasthan back in contention after a disappointing start to the tournament.

Rajasthan's bowlers, led by Munaf Patel, had done an admirable job restricting Delhi to a chaseable score with a frugal display, mixed with variation and boosted by Warne's tactic of shuffling the attack. Though bowling hasn't been a major worry for Rajasthan, with disciplined performances in each of their three completed games, surviving an explosive top-order was expected to be a stern test.

SCORES IN BRIEF

DELHI DAREDEVILS: 143 for 7 in 20 overs (De Villiers 50, Vettori 29, Manhas 23 not out, Sehwaig 16; Patel 2-14, Mascarenhas 2-28, Warne 2-32).
RAJASTHAN ROYALS: 147 for 5 in 18.3 overs (Pathan 62 not out, Smith 44 not out, Jadeja 16, Asnodkar 11; Mishra 3-34).
Result: Rajasthan Royals won by 5 wickets.

Man-of-the-match: Yusuf Pathan.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	DOWN	ACROSS	DOWN
1 Occupation	30 Wise	50 "— be surprised"	16 Basin accessory
4 Having a Y	31 Shelter	51 List— ending abbr.	19 Read bar codes
8 Invitation notation	32 Subtract	34 Two fold*	20 Typist's choice
12 Be below par	35 Shade	36 Muscular	21 Notion
13 Leading man	37 Run — of (violate)	37 Run — of (violate)	22 Showy display
14 Gardener, at times	40 Singer	41 Deposited	23 Helen's home
15 Toronto team	42 In song, it "saw"	42 In song, it "saw"	25 Scat— tired, as seeded
17 Cosmonaut	46 Ticket	46 Ticket	26 Nod
18 Furry sci-fi critter	47 Trad— tales	47 Trad— tales	27 Image on Canada's flag
19 NFL Hall-of-Famer	48 Bill	48 Bill	28 Slither
20 Thread	49 Clumsy fleet	49 Clumsy fleet	30 Go
21 Leave a lasting impression			33 Piano pieces
24 Bloodhound's clue			34 Consider
25 Mix up			36 Evidence a cut
29 Ultra-modernist			37 — Romeo
			38 Equitable
			39 Sky cry
			40 Expert
			42 Journalist
			43 Nellie
			44 Feedbag
			45 Leno's home

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CRYPTOQUIP

SGRC NP GS YRJNKHGSH
PZGIQFYJ QHNKC HFGH
NSZE QNZV ZGKIC JKYBCE
JYGSNQ: "IKGSV BCSHKGZ."

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN MEAN FOLKS SAY INSULTING THINGS TO MY BEST FRIEND, WELL, THAT REALLY MAKES MY BUD BOIL.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: S equals N