

Icing tastes sweet for Tigers

Mushfiqu's near miss

SPORTS REPORTER

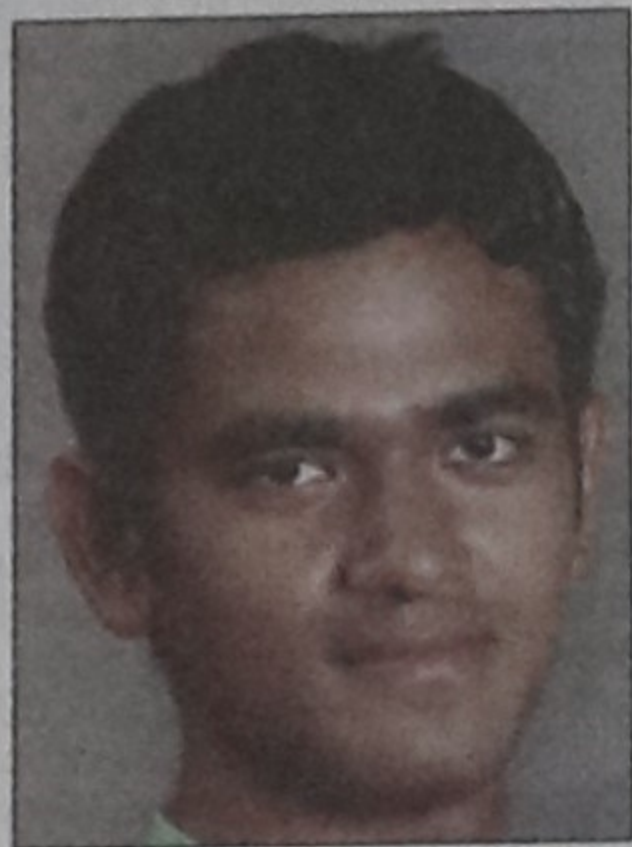
Bangladesh completed a memorable tour of Zimbabwe taking the Grameenphone Cup 4-1 as they sailed to a modest target of 210 with 13 balls to spare and five wickets in hand in the fifth and final ODI at the Queens Park in Bulawayo yesterday.

This series victory comes on the back of a historic tour of the West Indies where they whitewashed the hosts in both Test and one-day series.

The only disappointment was wicketkeeper-batsman Mushfiquur Rahman missing a richly deserved century for just two runs. The diminutive right-hander was on 98 and looking for his maiden hundred when the pressure got the better of him. Seeing fielders breathing down his neck, he charged down the wicket only to completely miss a Raymond Price delivery and was stumped: a cruel end to a flawless innings.

Chasing an easy target on a pitch that offered some swing to the bowlers early on, Bangladesh produced yet another professional display two days after their record-

breaking chase at the same venue. They did make a cau-



DOLLAR MAHMUD...m-o-m

tious start. That was evident even in their gameplan as they decided to send their most technically sound batsman Mushfiquur to open instead of the inconsistent Zunaed Siddiqui. As if to emphasize that point, Mushfiquur batted beautifully, mixing aggression at times with his usual copy-book cricket. He wasn't flustered either by the swing of the pacers or the spin, or the fall of wickets at the other as he went about contemplating on ones and twos, picking up occasional boundaries in between.

His opening partner, Tamim Iqbal didn't look the man he was the other day

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Bangladesh wicketkeeper Mushfiquur Rahman (L) effects a smart stumping to dismiss Zimbabwean batsman Greame Creamer during the fifth and final ODI at the Queens Sports Club in Bulawayo yesterday. The dapper stumper also went on to score a career-best 98 to guide the visitors to an emphatic five-wicket win.

PHOTO: AFP



Did U Know?

The record for the world's shortest badminton match is six minutes between Ra Kyung-min of South Korea and Julia Mann of England.



Jelena Jankovic
(Serbian tennis star)
"My smile is back and I'm having fun playing the matches. This is what I missed. I missed this for maybe seven months this year."
After winning the Cincinnati Open singles title on Sunday.



TEN Sports
Sri Lanka v New Zealand
First Test, Day 2
Live from 11:30am
ESPN
Sportscenter India
Sports News
Live from 9:30pm

Army chief elected BOA president

SPORTS REPORTER

Army chief General Abdul Mubeen has been declared the president of the Bangladesh Olympic Association uncontested when there was no withdrawal of the candidature on the day of pulling out of the nominations yesterday.

"As the lone candidate of the election did not choose to take himself out from the race on the day of nomination withdrawal day, he was declared the president of the Bangladesh Olympic Association," said returning officer of the election, Subroto Rai.

Earlier, BOA secretary general Kutubuddin Ahmed bought the nomination in favour of the army chief.

The post fell vacant following the resignation of former army chief General Moeen U Ahmed on July 7, nearly two-and-a-half years before his four-year tenure expired. Traditionally the incumbent army chief holds the post.

BCB expects huge surplus

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh Cricket Board is expecting a Tk 76 crore surplus in the 2009-10 fiscal as the board of directors yesterday approved a budget of over Tk 93.28 crore, Tk 30 crore more than the last fiscal.

The BCB's expectation of making surplus money basically lies on the proposed India's tour of Bangladesh in next year as the neighbouring nation is expected to take part in a tri-nation one-day international series also involving Sri Lanka and hosts Bangladesh. Besides, the former world champions are expected to play a two-Test series against the Tigers.

"Making up for the deficit

of Tk 25 crore in last fiscal as well as meeting this fiscal Tk 93.28, we are expecting to make Tk 76 crore surplus because of the India's tour of Bangladesh next year," chairman of BCB finance committee Ahmed Iqbal Hasan told reporters at a press conference at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium yesterday.

Hasan, however, said that they had to face the deficit in last fiscal as a number of tournaments were cancelled.

The BCB director was expecting huge revenue of over Tk 195 crore, of which the major part of Tk 187 crore would come from Nimbus and Tk 18.48 crore from the International Cricket Council for the participation of the 2010 Twenty20 World Cup and Tk 3 crore from selling the right of the national team's

sponsorship. Hasan, however, informed that they would have to give approximately Tk 29 crore to Nimbus for the production cost.

Asked why they were expecting low money from sponsorship deal while the national team were playing good cricket this time, BCB media committee chairman Jalal Younus, said, "Yes, the team played fine in West Indies and we have just made the estimated sponsorship money and it may increase in the future."

Meanwhile, Grameenphone, the current sponsor, held on to the national team's sponsorship right by spending Tk 5.5 crore for two years.

The board is also expecting Tk 35 lakh by selling the right

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Bekele makes history

AFP, Berlin



Ethiopian Kenenisa Bekele etched his name in distance running history at the world athletics championships here on Monday

when he won his fourth consecutive world 10,000m title.

The 27-year-old Olympic champion ran 26min 46.31sec to add Berlin gold to his previous success in Paris 2003, Helsinki 2005 and Osaka two years ago, to match compatriot Haile Gebrselassie for the most world championship titles won.

"It's great to win for the fourth time," he said. "I had already planned to stay behind until the last lap and then kick." The victory also meant the five foot four (1.60 metres) running phenomenon from Gebrselassie's Oromia region continued his 100 percent record over the 10,000m event.

Once again the Ethiopian relied on his last-

lap kick, an incredible ability to change gears when the bell sounds and destroy his rivals in 50 quick, painful metres.

Eritrean Zersenay Tadese, who led for almost all the second-half of the 25-lap race, claimed silver in 26:50.12 with Kenyan Moses Masai of Kenya winning bronze in 26:57.39.

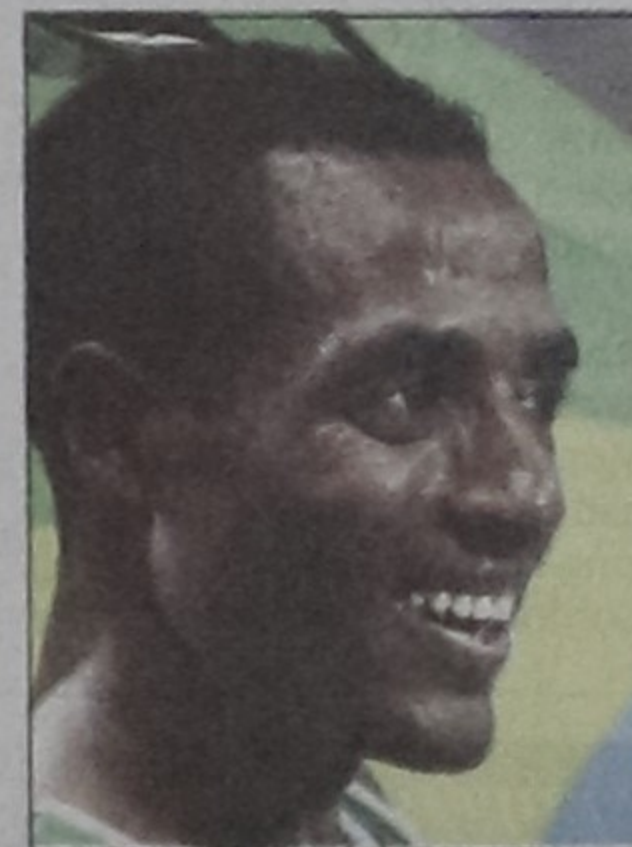
Qatar's Nicolas Kemboi and Kenyan Bernard Kipyego kept up the early pace of the race at the Olympic Stadium with the Ethiopians quite happy to sit in the chasing pack.

Just before the halfway stage, Tadese kicked away, with Bekele in second and compatriot Gebre-egziabher Gebremariam in third at a pace that strung the field out.

Masai took up the lead from Tadese briefly before the Eritrean again picked up a punishing pace that saw the pack begin to lap other competitors with 10 laps to go.

A lap later, and a four-runner breakaway had formed, Bekele sitting on the heels of Masai, behind Tadese, with Kenyan Michah Kogo in fourth.

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KENENISA BEKELE



SPEED IS JAMAICA: Jamaica's Shelly-Ann Fraser (R) crosses the finish line ahead of the pack to win the women's 100m sprint at day after her fellow countryman Usain Bolt won the men's title with a new world record at the Athletics World Championships in Berlin.

PHOTO: AFP

Clubs appeal to defer Fed Cup

SPORTS REPORTER

Four more clubs joined Mohammedan SC in a bid to defer Federation Cup as they appealed the Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) for the deferment of the season's curtain-raising tournament, scheduled to start on September 10.

They are Farashganj SC, Rahmatganj MFS, Chittagong Mohammedan, Brothers Union, the last two teams yet to be completed their players' transfer formalities.

However, newcomers Sukhtara Jubo Sangsad of Narayanganj and Biyanibazar SC of Sylhet, Sheikh Russel KC and Muktijoddha informed the football's governing body that they had no problem to take part in the tournament on the time.

Quoting the BFF president Kazi Salahuddin, general secretary Al Mussabir Sadi said that they had no scope to defer the tournament.

"If we are forced to defer the tournament, then we will have no option but to drop the Federation Cup this year," Sadi said.

"If we take the tournament to October, it will end in November and thereafter the national players will be released for the SAFF Championship in December and the South Asian Games in January next year and we will have no option but to start the B. League in February next year."

The BFF general secretary said that as a worse case scenario they would start the third edition of professional football league and drop the idea of the Federation Cup, thus giving the clubs good time to be prepared.

SL dominate Day One

Cricket

AFP, Galle

Mahela Jayawardene and Tillakaratne Dilshan pulverised New Zealand's bowlers to help Sri Lanka make a spectacular start in the first cricket Test on Tuesday.

Jayawardene hit an unbeaten 108 and Dilshan smashed 92 off 72 balls in his new role as opener as Sri Lanka, sent in to bat under an overcast sky, recovered from 16-2 to 293-3 by stumps on a rain-curtained opening day.

Jayawardene, who gave up the captaincy earlier this year to concentrate on his batting, compiled his 26th Test century on the easy-paced wicket at the Galle International Stadium.

Dilshan hit the fastest Test half-century by a Sri Lankan off 30 balls, upstaging former captain Arjuna Ranatunga's 31-ball effort against India at Kanpur in 1986.

Jayawardene put on 118 for the third wicket with Dilshan and 159 for the undefeated fourth with Thilan Samaraweera (82 not out) after New Zealand seamer Chris Martin struck twice in his first two overs.

Martin gave the Test a dramatic start when he had Tharanga Paranavitana, Dilshan's fellow opener, edging the third ball of the match to wicket-keeper Brendon McCullum.

Martin then removed Kumar Sangakkara for eight, the Sri Lankan captain flicking a half-volley to the mid-wicket fielder after hitting two boundaries in the same over.

The start of the Test was delayed by 90 minutes due to early morning rain, although the pitch and outfield remained unaffected under the covers.

The umpires pushed back the lunch break by an hour to make up for lost time, but just

78 of the stipulated 90 overs were sent down before bad light forced play to end early.

Dilshan, who has batted in the middle order in all of his previous 55 Tests, was promoted to open the innings in order to accommodate fit-again keeper Prasanna Jayawardene.

The right-hander, who represents Delhi Daredevils in the Indian Premier League, hit eight fours and a six by the time he reached 51 in the 11th over in Sri Lanka's total of 67-2.

Opening the batting was the multi-faceted Dilshan's latest role after he donned the

wicket-keeping gloves in the recent three Test-series against Pakistan due to Prasanna's knee injury.

Seamer Iain O'Brien, who bore the brunt of Dilshan's assault and conceded 55 runs in his first six overs, denied the batsman his ninth Test century by bowling him off the inside edge soon after lunch.

But there was no further respite for the Black Caps as Jayawardene and Samaraweera settled in to tame the tiring attack.

Jayawardene reached his third century against New Zealand and the fifth at Galle

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Sri Lanka batting maestro Mahela Jayawardene raises his bat after scoring a century during the first day of the opening Test match against New Zealand at Galle yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

JAMAICAN DOUBLE IN 100M Fraser emulates Bolt

AFP, Berlin



Jamaica's Shelly-Ann Fraser won the women's 100 metres title here at the world championships on Monday in the joint

third fastest time ever of 10.73 seconds.

The 22-year-old Olympic champion -- who thus emulates compatriot Usain Bolt after he added the men's world title to his Olympic gold -- beat home teammate Kerron Stewart (10.75sec) while American champion Carmelita Jeter took bronze in a time of 10.90sec.

Fraser joins Frenchwoman Christine Arron as the third fastest of all time behind the now disgraced Marion Jones, who set 10.70sec at the 1999 world championships in Seville, and the now deceased world record-holder Florence Griffith-Joyner, who set 10.49 in 1988 in Indianapolis.

Fraser's feat comes less than a week after she lost her place in the team when, along with men's world bronze medallist Asafa Powell, they were ejected for not training at the official team training camp only to be reinstated later the same day.

Fraser said that she had not lost her focus

despite the falling out with the team chiefs prior to the championships.

"I was not disturbed because of the problems before the world championships," she said.

"As regards the race I left all the world behind me down there on the track." Fraser made no mistake given a second chance and she was much faster out of the blocks than Stewart, and the rest of the field.

The 25-year-old Stewart had won all four Golden League meets this season but did suffer defeat to Fraser at one Grand Prix. Stewart fought hard to reel her back in but Fraser never let up till she hit the line.

Stewart ran a personal best but had to settle for another silver, having finished joint second alongside Sherone Simpson in Beijing last year in a Jamaican clean sweep.

"This is not what I wanted, but I gave everything I had," said Stewart.

"My time will come." It was 29-year-old Jeter's second successive world bronze. The consolation for her and the Americans was that she prevented another Jamaican clean sweep.

Defending champion and two-time Olympic 200m champion Veronica Campbell-Brown fought back valiantly from a poor start

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