

LOCAL SNIPPETS

Nannu Smriti award

SPORTS REPORTER

Referees Tayeb Hasan Shamsuddin and Abdul Hannan Miron have been nominated for the Manwar Hossain Nannu Smriti Referee Award for their outstanding performance in last season's Federation Cup, B. League and Super Cup.

They will each receive monetary award of Tk 25,000 each along with trophies. The family of late Nannu last year announced to award referees each year.

Sonali Otiti Club, in collaboration with Nannu's, family will organise the award giving ceremony, said a press release yesterday.

School b'ball

SPORTS REPORTER

Sunnydale and Maple Leaf clinched the girls' and the boys' titles respectively in the under-14 Sunnydale School Basketball Tournament on Friday.

Sunnydale defeated Sunbeams 14-6 to emerge champions in the girls' event while Maple Leaf handed a 33-28 defeat to Sunnydale to become champions in the boys' event.

Inter-district football

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Magura

Jessore Sonali Otiti came from behind to crush Bagerhat district eleven 4-1 in the second match of the Inter-District Deputy Commissioner Gold Cup Tournament at Magura Stadium yesterday.

Didar put the hosts ahead before Anwar and Tito netted one each to give Jessore outfit a 2-1 lead in the first half.

After the break, Amin and Khoka Babu struck one apiece to seal the match 4-1.

Satkhiria district team will take on Meherpur district eleven today at the same venue.

Police football

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Manikganj

Narayanganj Police emerged champions of the Dhaka Range Police Football tournament with a lone-goal win over Manikganj police at the Police Line ground in Manikganj yesterday.

Mahbub scored the all-important goal for Narayanganj in the first half. Jahangir of Manikganj was named the best player of the tournament.

Superintendent of police of Manikganj Sheikh Muhammad Maruf Hasan handed over prizes among the winners. A total of 18 teams from Dhaka division took part in the tournament.

India take

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India need to score at 4.6 runs an over if they are to win the match and go 2-1 up in the series.

Australia, the top-ranked one-day team, brought in Doug Bollinger and Moises Henriques in place of Ben Hilfenhaus and Shaun Marsh.

India named an unchanged side.

Scoreboard of Australia innings in the third one-day international against India at the Feroze Shah Kotla Stadium in New Delhi yesterday:

AUSTRALIA				
Watson st Dhoni b Yuvraj	41			
Ponting lbw b Jadeja	59			
Hussey not out	81			
White c Dhoni b Raina	0			
Voges c Kumar b Harbhajan	17			
Henriques b Jadeja	12			
Johnson not out	9			
Extras: (lb-3, b-4, w-3)	10			
Total: (For 5 wks in 50 overs)	229			
Fall of wickets: 1-72, 2-128, 3-129, 4-172, 5-200				

AUSTRALIA				
Bowler	O	M	R	W
Praveen	5	1	16	0
Nehra	9	0	51	0
Ishant	5	0	24	0
Jadeja	9	1	41	2
Harbhajan	10	0	37	1
Yuvraj	8	0	30	1
Raina	4	0	23	1
INDIA: Dhoni, Tendulkar, Sehwag, Gambhir, Yuvraj, Raina, Jadeja, Harbhajan, Nehra, Praveen, Ishant.				
Toss: Australia.				
Umpires: Amish Saheba and Sanjay Hazare.				

Schalke to sell

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lower their reported wage bill of 55 million euros.

"Even if we have some breathing space now, we must - and will - considerably reduce our wage bill for next season," Magath told German tabloid Bild.

"Up to the sale of goalkeeper Manuel Neuer, everything is possible."

Trott refutes allegation

Cricket

CRICINFO, undated

England batsman Jonathan Trott has denied allegations from Michael Vaughan that he parted with South Africa after he won a Test in 2008. In his new autobiography, Time to Declare, Vaughan has accused the Johannesburg-born Trott of celebrating with South Africa's players after England lost at Edgbaston last summer.

"It was a sad day for English cricket that on my last day against South Africa I saw Jonathan Trott celebrating with South Africa, when the week before he had been our 12th man at Headingley," wrote Vaughan. "I was going into the press conference and I saw him patting them on the back. It hit home what English cricket has become like."

In response, Trott has said that he was talking to the spinner and his old friend Paul Harris shortly after the Test. "Warwickshire finished a game at Leicester and myself, Neil Carter and Allan Donald raced back to Edgbaston because the Test looked like being a close finish," he said. "We were standing between the changing rooms when both teams were on the field at the end. I've known Paul Harris since I was 16 and we played together at Warwickshire. I just said something like, 'Cheers, well done on your victory.'"

"That was it. There was no high-fives or anything like that. I knew I wouldn't be seeing

Paul again that summer because he wasn't in the one-day squad so I wanted to wish him well. In fact, I've not seen him since."

"But Michael Vaughan walked past at the same time to go to his press conference. It was a misunderstanding, an unfortunate situation. I was in the wrong place at the wrong time."

"I respect Michael. I would never behave like that against the team I was trying to play for at the time -- and now have the chance to play for. Allan Donald went into the South African changing room but I didn't go anywhere near. In the previous match, I was on 12th-man duty at Headingley and was upset when England lost that match. I was also upset they lost at Edgbaston."

Back in August, Trott was the toast of English cricket after securing the Ashes with a brilliant debut century, at the culmination of a crazy week in which his credentials as an international cricketer were questioned before they had even been tested. Though he triumphed over the critics in unequivocal fashion, Trott has again become the victim of criticism ahead of England's tour to South Africa, one on which he will be under the spotlight given his roots.

Trott, who made his name playing for Warwickshire, has insisted that his commitment to the England cause is complete. "My commitment to England is 100%. I've spent seven years working hard to be able to wear the Three Lions and in that time my allegiance has never wavered. It's unfortunate this has come out a few days before we leave on tour."

'Botha action will remain doubtful'

Cricket

CRICINFO, undated

The trouble with having a charge laid against you is that, whether you're cleared or not and even if you pay your penance, you'll always be regarded with some suspicion. Just ask Jacob Zuma, Chris Brown or even Johan Botha. After being cited for a suspect action for the third time, Botha must feel like a wanted criminal every time he steps out to play.

Despite being cleared by Cricket South Africa (CSA), Vincent Barnes, South Africa's bowling coach says the suspicion over Botha's action "will always be there", but it is something the bowler has learned to deal with. According to Barnes, Botha always had a mature attitude to his problem and recognised that the question marks over his action were unlikely to disappear.

Before being called in the match between the Warriors and the Lions in East London, Botha had already planned to undergo testing at the Sports Science Institute this week. "It was just a coincidence that he was called, and he had to have the tests done for more serious reasons," said Barnes. "We know that his bowling has to be monitored on a regular basis and this was part of that process."

Botha was last tested in May, when he was banned from bowling the doosra, and although there were more tests lined up in the future, Barnes said they had not conducted one because of Botha's playing schedule. Since that test, he played a few IPL matches, the World Twenty20, the Champions Trophy and three first-class games.

It was in the last of those games when "a few deliveries were thought to be suspect," said Barnes, who was confident that the offspinner would be cleared even before the testing took place. "We were asked to focus on a particular delivery, which was the quicker one," said Barnes.

"Ironically, in the previous testing, the quicker delivery was the one with the lowest degrees."

Even though he thought Botha would come through the testing with no problem, Barnes said it was imperative to have a back-up plan in place. "We don't want him to be banned from bowling another delivery, so if we found something irregular than we would definitely work on it. The reality is that he is always going to have an awkward action because he can't straighten his arm. He has a natural bend at the elbow."

"The solution is that he has to bowl as naturally as he can. He is aware that he has to be careful and we will be monitoring him on a weekly basis."

"The first time he was called [on his Test debut in January 2006], it took him 18 months to get back into the national side, so every time this happens it could determine where his career goes from now."

Botha has had to accept that ongoing testing would be part of his career, but it certainly becomes stressful every time he has to go under the microscope. During the May test, Barnes said: "I asked him which is more pressure: bowling now in the test or if this was the last ball of the World Cup final and you could win or lose the match with it? He said the test was more stressful."

It is for this reason that Barnes thinks testing bowlers in an indoor facility is not a fair way of determining if their action is legal or not. "In my opinion, they must be tested in the environment they are playing in," Barnes said. "The testing is all done in an artificial environment where the surfaces and the conditions are different. For example, there is no wind, they don't use boots, and there's no batsman. The fatigue factor is completely taken out of it, because they only bowl 10 deliveries of a particular ball. But in a match, they could get called after 24 overs, when the bowler is feeling completely different."

Tigers tame sorry Zim

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Zimbabwe, however, lost the way once Coventry fell victim to left-arm spinner Enamul Haque. Coventry managed a top-edge which was taken comfortably by Nayeem Islam at midwicket.

Shakib kept changing his bowlers and the Zimbabwe batters kept falling playing bad shots. Stand-in skipper Masakadza missed his deserved hundred for only 16 runs as the right-hander played a tamed pull-shot against Razzak to find the safe hands of Rokibul at midwicket.

Pacer Nazmul Hossain returned the best figures of 3-13 in 4.1 overs while Enamul took three wickets for 45 runs in his 10-over spell.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the day-night third one-day international between Bangladesh and Zimbabwe at the Sher-e-

Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur on Saturday:

ZIMBABWE

Masakadza c Rokibul b Razzak	84
Taylor c Rahim b Nazmul	2
Coventry c Nayeem b Enamul	29
Mutizwa c Mahmudullah b Enamul	0
Waller b Mahmudullah	27
Matsikenye b Razzak	5
Chigumbura b Nazmul	20
Chibhabha c Nayeem b Enamul	5
Cremer c Enamul b Nazmul	9
Price c Mahmudullah b Nazmul	3
Jarvis not out	10
Extras: (b-1, lb-5, w-5, nb-1)	12
Total: (All out in 41.1 overs)	196
Fall of wickets: 1-19, 2-90, 3-91, 4-148, 5-154, 6-158, 7-177, 8-191, 9-195	

Bowler				
Nazmul	4.1	1	13	3
Razzak	8	1	41	2
Shakib	7	1	32	0
Enamul	10	0	45	3
Nayeem	2	0	13	1
Ashrafal	2	0	11	0
Mahmudullah	8	0	35	1

BANGLADESH

Tamim st Taylor b Cremer 80

Zunaed c Chibhabha b Jarvis 5

Ashrafal b Price 63

Rokibul c Chibhabha b Jarvis 21

Mahmudullah c Masakadza 5

b Jarvis 7

Mushfiqur lbw b Cremer 5

Shakib not out 5

Nayeem not out 4

Extras: (lb-1, w-5, nb-2) 8

Total: (For 6 wks in 40.4 overs) 198

Did not bat: Razzak, Nazmul, Enamul

Fall of wickets: 1-24, 2-122, 3-175, 4-183, 5-183, 6-194

Bowler

Jarvis 10 0 38 3

Chigumbura 4 0 28 0

Price 10 0 42 1

Chibhabha 6 0 31 0

Cremer 8.4 2 43 2

Waller 2 0 15 0

Result: Bangladesh won by four wickets and lead the 5-match series 2-1.

Man-of-the-match: Tamim Iqbal.

Toss: Bangladesh.

Umpires: Aleem Dar and Nadir Shah.

Venus, Jelena

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overcoming a crippling attack of cramps.

"I didn't have anything left," said Wozniacki, who again played with her left thigh tightly-strapped and appeared at her news conference with her leg and stomach chided.

"I couldn't play like I wanted to. I had some pain in my stomach muscle, as well, so I couldn't serve, but I feel I deserve to get to the semifinals."

For Jankovic, who made the season-ending championships as the eighth and last qualifier, it was a third win in three career meetings against the Dane.

"I wanted to reach the semifinals and I didn't want to get into long rallies with Caroline," said Jankovic, who

admitted she had let herself down in her opening defeat to Azarenka.

"I only arrived on Sunday from Moscow where it was very cold and here it's very hot. It takes time to get used to the conditions. It was a bad day against Victoria."

"But in tournaments like these it's important how you finish, not how you start."

Moyes's silent

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full points against Wolves and Stoke at home. I think we have lost one out of five Premier League games, so it's not as if we are doing terribly bad but, obviously, we want to get in a much healthier position and I believe the players will respond."

Russel down

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Omari inside box and was sent off to leave Muktiyoddha down to 10 men with 25 minutes still in hand.

Omari converted the spot kick to make the margin 3-0 in the 65th minute while Muktiyoddha reduced the margin through a spot kick of their own in the 72nd minute when referee Azad Rahman awarded the penalty kick following defender Aminul Islam's bad tackle on Rony Islam. Gray converted the spotkick.

Sheikh Russel's Rony, who struck a pair against Shuktra Juba Sangsad, could have gotten his hat-trick two minutes from time had he not struck the ball straight to substitute goalkeeper Nizam Majumdar in a one-on-one situation.

Under-19s beaten

SPORTS REPORTER

After four straight wins, Bangladesh Under-19s suffered their first defeat against their English counterparts in the seven-match one-day series at the Fatullah Cricket Stadium yesterday.

The visitors, having already conceded the series, showed a much-improved performance to get a deserving five-wicket win in the fifth limited-overs game to make it 4-1.

Bangladesh captain Mahmudul Hassan opted to bat first after winning the toss, and it was his 49-run knock in the middle order, along with a 36-run innings from Tasamul Haque and a quick-fire 39 from Nur Hossain, that saw the homeside posting a modest 196 before being all out in 49.5 overs.

English paceman Payne was the wrecker-in-chief as he took four for 56 while skipper Azeem Rafiq took three wickets with his spin.

Chasing the small target, Vince and Dent laid the foundation with a 40-run partnership in 10 overs. Although Dent (14) got out cheaply, Vince went on to score a fine 71. The tourists lost a few quick wickets in the middle, but Javed and Bates made sure of their first win of the tour in the 49th over with 5 wickets in hand. The visitors had earlier lost the lone four-day Test in a dramatic fashion in Chittagong.

Shakib still

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that the absence of regular captain Prosper Utseya, who himself is a very good spinner, and Tatenda Taibu, made things easier for the Tigers. The two missed the game due to injuries.

"Definitely they are the key players for Zimbabwe and they missed their services. And it's helped us lot to dominate the proceedings," he said.

The Bangladesh captain was however happy with the fact that his top-order batsmen returned among the runs, especially Ashrafal's 63-run knock was encouraging for the team.

"It's nice to see that most of the top-order batsmen got runs in the last three matches. It will help us win matches on a regular basis if we can continue this trend," he hoped.

Shakib also defended his team's strategy to play the match with one pacer.

Stand-in Zimbabwe skipper Hamilton Masakadza however said that he was not surprised by the Bangladesh team's strategy of fielding five spinners.

"I wasn't surprised because we were expecting this type of an attack after [Abdur] Razzak's five-wicket haul the other night," said Masakadza, who was also disappointed with the way he got out to fall 16 runs short of what would have been a deserved century.

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Dyson enters the race

Cricket

CRICINFO, undated

John Dyson, the former Sri Lanka and West Indies coach, has expressed interest in the New Zealand post recently vacated by Andy Moles. New Zealand Cricket have encountered difficulty filling the head coaching role of late -- Moles' appointment last November came after Matthew Mott, Graham Ford and Mickey Arthur turned down the position -- and the availability of a well-credentialed candidate will be viewed as a positive by Kiwi officials.

Before the industrial turmoil that engulfed West Indies cricket this year, Dyson led the side to three wins, seven draws and five defeats in the Test arena -- a vast improvement on their record of six draws and 14 defeats in the 20 matches immediately prior to his arrival. His tenure was highlighted by West Indies' Wisden Trophy series victory over England this year and a shock away defeat of South Africa in his first match as coach. The nadir was undoubtedly the home Test series defeat to Bangladesh, during which a severely depleted West Indian side slumped to a 2-0 loss. Dyson was sacked shortly after.

Previously, Dyson piloted Sri Lanka to second and fourth in the Test and ODI rankings, only to be replaced by Tom Moody when a new administration took charge. Moody, Stephen Fleming and Greg Shipperd are among those to have withdrawn their candidacy for the vacant New Zealand post -- all three have IPL commitments -- leaving Dyson among the few contenders with recent international coaching experience.

"If the opportunity arose and they considered me a suitable candidate, I'd definitely be interested," Dyson told Cricinfo. "They have a

couple of genuinely world-class players in Daniel Vettori, Ross Taylor and Brendon McCullum, and then guys like Jesse Ryder who really could be right up there as well. They certainly have the potential to be a very competitive team."

"Australians and New Zealanders have a healthy sporting rivalry, but when you get right down to it, they communicate well. I feel the experience I have gained at Sri Lanka and the West Indies would hold me in good stead, but we will just have to wait and see if anything comes off."

John Wright and Steve Rixon have both been touted as contenders for the New Zealand coaching post, although neither is guaranteed the position. Wright, the former India coach and current NZC high performance manager, has previously expressed reservations about returning to touring life, while Rixon has not held down an international post since he left the New Zealand job a decade ago.

Wright this week received the strong endorsement of Martin Snedden, the former NZC chief executive, however the incumbent CEO, Justin Vaughan, was somewhat less effusive when assessing Wright's claims to the job. "We all want to get the best