

LOCAL SNIPS

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 Otti 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 Otti 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.

Dadar 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.

Satkhira 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

FROM PAGE 17

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

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 wkt in 50 overs) 229
Fall of wickets: 1-72, 2-128, 3-129, 4-172, 5-200

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: Anish Saheba and Sanjay Hazare.

Schalke to sell

FROM PAGE 20
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 goal-keeper Manuel Neuer, everything is possible."

Trott refutes allegation

Cricket

CRICINFO, undated

England batsman Jonathan Trott has denied allegations from Michael Vaughan that he partied with South Africa after they 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 the back 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 degree."

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 spin, 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."

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Tigers tame sorry Zim

FROM PAGE 17

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

Mutzwala c Mahmudullah b Enamul 27

Waller c Mahmudullah 27

Matsikenyen 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 0

Extras: (b-1, lb-5, w-5, nb-2) 12

Total: (All out in 41.0 overs) 196

Fall of wickets: 1-19, 2-90, 3-91, 4-148, 5-154, 6-158, 7-177, 8-191, 9-195

Bowler O M R W

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

Ashraful 2 0 11 0

Mahmudullah 8 0 35 1

BANGLADESH

Tamim st Taylor b Cremer 80

Zunaid c Chibhabha b Jarvis 5

Ashraful b Price 63

Rokibul c Chibhabha b Jarvis 21

Mahmudullah c Masakadza

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 wkt in 40.4 overs) 198

Did not bat: Razzak, Nazmul, Enamul

Enamul not out 0

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

Bowler O M R W

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

Islam

Umpires: Aleem Dar and

Nadir Shah.

Russel down

FROM PAGE 17

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

Russel converted the spot kick to make the margin 3-0 in the 65th minute while Muktijoddha 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 spot kick.

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

"I didn't have anything left,"

said Wozniacki, who again played