

Ponting backs Lee

INTERNET, undated

Ricky Ponting has no doubt veteran fast bowler Brett Lee can play a significant role for Australia at the upcoming World Twenty20 despite his lack of match practice.

The 33-year-old paceman was a surprise inclusion in Australia's 15-man squad on Tuesday, but there are still doubts over Lee's fitness considering he has played just a handful of games in the current Indian Premier League after elbow surgery in November which forced him to retire from Test cricket.

"He hasn't played a lot of cricket for a few months but it's great to see him back on the park now," said Ponting. "I watched him bowl the last couple of nights (in the IPL) and his pace has looked good."

"It's a good sign to have someone of that class and calibre in the team going into a big tournament."

He added: "I know he's got a few more games to play to get back to full fitness yet, but it's a really good sign for the Australian team he's back out on the park playing again."

"Brett's an experienced limited-overs bowler and I knew once he came back he would get back into the side."

Mirza rises in rankings

PTI, New Delhi

Out of action owing to a wrist injury, tennis ace Sania Mirza has risen a couple of rungs to 90th in the latest WTA singles rankings issued on Monday.

Sania, who is currently busy gearing up for her marriage with Pakistani cricketer Shoaib Malik on April 15, has 740 points in the list.

Sania, however, slipped in the doubles chart and was down to 44th from last week's 36th with 1875 points.

IHF handball

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Local companies Exim Bank, Sun Life Insurance and South East Bank are together sponsoring the event providing a total of Tk 27 lakh.

BHF president Bulbul said that they were expecting to play the final to uphold the country's image through the tournament.

Meanwhile, except Yemen, all five participating nations recently played the handball event of the SA Games where Pakistan emerged champions, India runners-up and hosts Bangladesh finished third.

He also informed -- coaches' coaching, referee coaching and physical trainers' course -- with the participation of all six participating nations will be held alongside the tournament and IHF technical persons have already arrived to conduct the courses.

Asked why they skipped the newly-built Handball Stadium, the BHF president said that to avoid the hot weather and arrange more seats for the spectators, they took the tournament to the Indoor Stadium.

Group A: Pakistan, Nepal, India.

Group B: Bangladesh, Afghanistan and Yemen.



Action from yesterday's Citycell Bangladesh League encounter between Rahmatganj and Farashganj at the Bangabandhu National Stadium.

Waugh bats for day-night Tests

Cricket

CRICINFO, undated

Steve Waugh, the former Australia captain, has backed day-night Tests and suggested some unorthodox tweaks to revive interest in one-dayers.

"I would have loved to play day-night Test cricket," Waugh said, speaking to Harsha Bhogle on Cricinfo's Opening Up interview show. "I think it is exciting, brings another dimension to the game."

"People want a bit of change, they want that excitement. Why not bring that into Test cricket? We have got it in Twenty20s. Let's get a pink ball in and play a day-night Test if it is possible."

Waugh said the concept needed to be thought through, however, since it wouldn't work everywhere. "Obviously in England it is not really possible because it doesn't get dark till 10 o'clock in summer. Maybe in the subcontinent the dew might make it impossible. So you've got to have common sense around it as well."

Waugh was optimistic about the future of Test cricket. "Quality always survives," he said. "As a cricketer I think you've got to be true to yourself. Why did you take up the game? To fulfill your potential, and you can't do that by playing Twenty20 because you can't bat for a whole day and you can't bowl 30 overs. And as a cricketer I think it wouldn't be that satisfying if I couldn't get out there and technically, mentally and physically challenge myself against the best players in the world over five days."

Waugh said a way to spruce up one-day cricket, especially the middle overs, could be to convert fours to sixes and sixes to nines to get the batsmen to play more shots. "Maybe the bowlers won't be too happy, but on the positive side, they have more chances of getting wickets when the batsmen are attacking them."

He was also in favour of giving the bowlers more incentives to restore balance in the game. As a member of the MCC's World Cricket Committee, he said he had discussed some radical ideas to that end. "We talked about the possibility of getting the seams a bit larger, even increasing the number of seams to eight."

Sania beside Shoaib

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media stating: "I will not apologise to Ayesha. She wants cheap publicity. She is just making statements behind the camera. Wouldn't like to lose respect I have earned. Ask Ayesha to come out and let the people decide what is wrong and what is right."

Shoaib's Delhi-based lawyer Ramesh Gupta said he had no apprehensions about the cricketer getting arrested in India.

"Shoaib's passport and mobile have been seized by police. We have not decided on seeking an anticipatory bail yet and we have no apprehension that he will be arrested," Gupta said.

ADMIT, APOLOGISE AND MOVE ON

Meanwhile, setting terms for Shoaib, the Siddiquis on Monday asked Shoaib to come out clean and tender a public apology to Ayesha.

The family said if Shoaib agrees to divorce Ayesha, they will drop the case against him. The Banjara Hills police, who quizzed both Shoaib Malik and the Siddiquis Monday, said a case under Sections 420 (cheating), 498-A (dowry harassment) and 506 (criminal intimidation) has been booked against Shoaib.

A close friend of the Siddiquis, Dr Shams Babar,

spoke to reporters after the police were handed over proof of Shoaib-Ayesha wedding, along with their lawyer Waliur Rehman.

Citing that the duo met 14 times ever since their marriage, Babar said, "We have given enough evidence to the police that proves that Shoaib did marry Ayesha and she is the cricketer's first wife. We cannot divulge details of the same now, unless the police give us a go ahead. However, we have proof that Shoaib and Ayesha met 14 times. They even lived together for few days in Dubai. But Shoaib has been denying that he met her all the while."

PAK GOVT TO HELP SHOAB

Meanwhile, Pakistan government said it will extend all assistance to Shoaib.

It said it was in touch with Indian authorities in connection with the police complaint filed against Shoaib by the Indian woman.

Foreign office spokesman Abdul Basit told the media that the Pakistan High Commission in New Delhi was in contact with Indian authorities and had asked them to share information on the FIR filed against Shoaib in Hyderabad.

"We will give Shoaib all the assistance he requires. We will

proceed in the best interests of Shoaib," Basit said.

BRING THE BRIDE HOME: AFRIDI

Another report from Lahore says: Pakistan's T20 captain Shahid Afridi Monday hoped that his beleaguered teammate would tide over the legal storm caused by a past affair gone wrong and bring his bride home.

"Since he has gone to India he must now bring his bride home," Afridi said.

SHOAB'S FAMILY MAY CHANGE TRAVEL PLANS

Meanwhile, alarmed by the development in Hyderabad where Shoaib had his passport seized by the police, his family is now considering altering plans to travel to India on Wednesday to attend the Pakistani cricketer's marriage with Sania.

A close relative of Shoaib's family said that they have contacted senior Pakistani government officials and the high commission in New Delhi for help and was considering changing their travel plans.

"Certain forces in India have become active to stop this marriage at any cost," the relative alleged.

(Sources: Times News Network, PTI, Times of India, The Hindu)

Roddick Miami master

Tennis

AFP, Miami

Sixth-seeded American Andy Roddick ended the giant-killing run of Czech Tomas Berdych to secure the Miami ATP Masters 1000 title Sunday.

One break of serve in each set was enough for Roddick, who didn't face a break point in the entire match which he won 7-5, 6-4.

"It's a surprising stat, especially on one side," Roddick said. "It was real rough with the sun on first serves you're having to adjust your toss and seeing spots on the first ball."

"I think that's what helped me break in the first set, you know, but I think it was maybe a little bit of an advantage that I played out there in that time slot a couple times."

His victory brought an end to the impressive run of the 16th-seeded Berdych, who had survived a match point to shock world number one Roger Federer in the fourth round.

"He was really good today," Berdych said. "He was really strong, serving well. I

was really looking for maybe to get one chance -- maybe one is enough. "But he held pretty well. I didn't get any chance in the whole match during both sets, so that's well-played for him."

Roddick, who beat world number four Rafael Nadal in the semi-finals, added a second Miami title to the one he captured in 2004.

In addition to a superb serving performance that included 13 aces, Roddick used a canny baseline game -- varying the pace of his groundstrokes -- to keep Berdych on the hop.

Roddick, who dropped only two service games in the tournament, surrendered just seven points on his serve in the second set.

He gave himself his third match point when he ended an exchange at the net with an overhead, and Berdych hit a backhand into the net to finish it off.

The Czech had saved two match points in the previous game.

Roddick improved to 26-4 in 2010, the best match record on the men's tour.

The American claimed his first ATP 1000 title since Cincinnati in 2006, and it came two weeks after his runner-up finish in the first of the prestigious events in 2010 -- at Indian Wells in California.



Andy Roddick of the United States holds aloft the winner's trophy after beating Tomas Berdych of the Czech Republic in the final of the Sony Ericsson Open at Crandon Park Tennis Centre on Sunday. Roddick won 7-5, 6-4.

Massa's feet firmly on ground

AFP, Kuala Lumpur

Eight months ago, Felipe Massa's life -- let alone his career with Ferrari -- was in grave danger.

Horribly injured in an accident at the Hungarian Grand Prix, he fought for survival. He suffered serious head injuries, a fractured skull and grave damage to his left eye.

Thanks to superb medical assistance and a determination to rise again, he not only survived, but he kept his seat as a Formula One racing driver.

And on Sunday, after a measured drive to seventh in the Malaysian Grand Prix -- after starting at the wrong end of the grid -- he topped the world championship standings, three races into the 2010 season.

But instead of celebrating, the 28-year-old Brazilian demonstrated all the commitment and maturity that enabled him to complete that remarkable recovery.

He did not talk of glory or titles -- he knows the pain of missing out on a title after losing the 2008 crown to Lewis Hamilton in the final seconds of the final race, his home Grand Prix -- but, instead, warned of the speed of his rivals.

"It is always nice to be leading in the championship, but it means nothing now," said Massa.

"Things can change so fast in this title race. It is so competitive and I know and the Ferrari team knows we have to work very hard to improve our car because the Red Bulls are very strong, very fast, and McLaren are very strong, too."

BFF aims

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as to who holds the right to organise football at district level, since DSA is also organising football besides DFA.

Barisal DFA president Alamgir Khan Alo alleged that no BFF officials accepted their invitations to be chief guests in different tournaments and leagues in Barisal district.

DB to monitor

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repeatedly said they would videotape matches of the Bangladesh League in a bid to identify the fixed matches. They have already had videotaped five to six matches of the second leg. BFF had never identified any fixed matches though this is common knowledge that number of matches in the top league are fixed each year.

Gunners plot

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with another alternative Yaya Toure also struggling with injury.

While the good news is that Iniesta has been able to train and may be fit to return, Zlatan Ibrahimovic, who scored two goals in London, picked up a thigh strain in the warm-up against Bilbao and is definitely out.

It could mean a starting place for an emotional Thierry Henry against his former club but he will have to battle it out with youngsters Bojan Krkic, who scored twice on Saturday, and Pedro Rodriguez.

The outcome of the game will depend on a fascinating battle for attacking supremacy between Lionel Messi, who has 26 goals in La Liga this season, and Walcott who score Arsenal's first goal at the Emirates and whose searing pace stunned the Spanish defenders.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down. Includes a solution time of 27 mins and a solution key.

Cryptoquip puzzle grid with numbers 1-51.

CRYPTOQUIP
DASHX QF JGJ IGD UADALXJ
KAEFG'D HG TALGK LICXX
LA QXD, A'J DGF IX'D
EXXS LV LCATVKA LCATKF.
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: CHARACTER'S NAME
THAT ONE MAY FIND IN THE SCANDINAVIAN
VERSION OF "POPEYE" COMICS: OLAF OYL.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: J equals D

নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

রূপালী ব্যাংক লিমিটেড-এ "সিনিয়র অফিসার" ও "অফিসার" পদে নিয়োগের জন্য এ বিজ্ঞপনে বর্ণিত যোগ্যতা পূরণ করে এমন প্রার্থীদের নিকট থেকে আবেদনপত্র আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে:

Table with 3 columns: পদের নাম, বেতনক্রম, প্রয়োজনীয় শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা

শর্তসমূহ

- ১- আবেদনকারীকে অবশ্যই বাংলাদেশের প্রাকৃত নাগরিক হতে হবে।
২- ২১-০৩-২০১০ তারিখে আবেদনকারীর বয়স ৩০(ত্রিশ)বছর বা তার কম হতে হবে।
৩- কোন প্রার্থীর যে কোন একাডেমিক পরীক্ষার ওয় শ্রেণী/বিভাগ/সমমানের রেজ পয়েন্ট থাকবে তার আবেদন বাতিল বলে গণ্য হবে।
৪- প্রার্থীকে কম্পিউটার ব্যবহারের দক্ষ হতে হবে।
৫- অফিসার পদে নিয়োগ পেলে সকল প্রার্থীকে ক্যান্স বিতরণে ও কাজ করতে হবে।
৬- চাকুরিরত প্রার্থীকে অবশ্যই স্ব স্ব কর্তৃপক্ষের মাধ্যমে আবেদন করতে হবে। কোন অগ্রিম আবেদন গ্রহণ করা হবে না।
৭- একজন প্রার্থী শুধু বার একটি পদের জন্যই আবেদন করতে পারবেন। কোন প্রার্থী একাধিক পদের জন্য আবেদন করলে প্রার্থীতা বাতিল করা হবে।
৮- প্রার্থীদের লিখিত ও মৌখিক পরীক্ষার অংশগ্রহণ করতে হবে।
৯- নিয়োগের ক্ষেত্রে কোটা সঙ্ক্রান্ত- সরকারি নীতিমালা অনুসরণ করা হবে।
১০- অসম্পূর্ণ আবেদনপত্র বাতিল বলে গণ্য হবে। এছাড়া আবেদনপত্রে অসংগতি বা আবেদনপত্রে কিংবা সংকল্প কাগজ পত্রের তথ্যাদি ভুল বলে ধরাযাবে হলে একজন প্রার্থীর পরীক্ষার অংশগ্রহণের পরও নিয়োগের জন্য অযোগ্য হবেন। কোন প্রার্থীর প্রার্থীতা বাতিলের জন্য কারন দর্শানোর ক্ষেত্রে রূপালী ব্যাংক কর্তৃপক্ষের কোন বাধ্যবাধকতা থাকবে না।
১১- প্রতি পদেই প্রকল্পিত ক্যাঙ্কনের ক্ষেত্রে সর্বশেষ স্মারিতকৃত প্রকল্পন অনুযায়ী বর্তমান প্রচলিত সিনিয়র বা ব্রেন্ডেড, সিভিলিএ এর বিপরীতে ১২,২৪ ও ৩৬ মাস/শ্রেণী নির্ধারিত হবে।

আবেদনপত্র সংগ্রহ ও জমা :

আগ্রহী প্রার্থীপন রূপালী ব্যাংক লিমিটেড এর যে কোন শাখা থেকে "রূপালী ব্যাংক লিমিটেড,মতিঝিল কর্পোরেট শাখা ঢাকা"-র অনুক্ষে ৩৫০.০০(তিনশত পঞ্চাশ) টাকার ব্যাংক ড্রাফট/শে-র্ডারের কয় করে উহার ফটোকপি করবেন। শে-র্ডার/ডিভি-র ফটোকপি নিজের কাছে রেখে ফুলকপি রূপালী ব্যাংক লিমিটেড এর যে কোন আঞ্চলিক কার্যালয়ে জমা দিয়ে সেখান থেকে আবেদনপত্র জমার নিয়মকানুন ও সি আই এক সহ প্রয়োজনীয় সকল কাগজ সংগ্রহ করবেন। সি আই এক-এ শে-র্ডার/ডিভি-র নকল অবশ্যই উল্লেখ করতে হবে এবং এ করলে ফটোকপি সংরক্ষণ করে রাখার ব্যবস্থা আবেদনপত্র জমার নিয়মাবলী ও প্রয়োজনীয় কাগজপত্র সংক্রমে অন্য আগ্রহী প্রার্থীদের রূপালী ব্যাংক লিমিটেড এর যে কোন আঞ্চলিক কার্যালয়ে আগামী ১৮-০৪-২০১০ তারিখ থেকে যোগাযোগ করতে অনুরোধ জানানো হচ্ছে। উক্তের অন্য পত্রের জন্য পৃথক সি আই এক থাকবে এবং প্রার্থী যে পদে আবেদন করবেন তাছাড়া উক্তের যে সি আই এক সংগ্রহ করবেন। প্রার্থী যে আঞ্চলিক কার্যালয় হতে আবেদনপত্র সংগ্রহ করবেন সেটি স্বাক্ষরিত অন্য কোথাও আবেদনপত্র জমা প্রবেশযোগ্য হবে না। আবেদনপত্র জমা দেয়ার শেষ তারিখ আগামী ২৮-০৪-২০১০।

