

Camoranesi paying for past sins

Former Italy World Cup-winning midfielder Mauro Camoranesi has been ordered to pay a \$50,000 indemnity to an opponent he injured during a match in Argentina in 1994.

The ruling found in favour of Roberto Pizzo, who needed surgery and a long period of rehabilitation after being kicked by Argentine-born Camoranesi on August 14, 1994.

"Although it's not possible to describe Camoranesi's action as deliberately intentional, it was incredibly clumsy... abnormal and avoidable," the ruling stated.



New Zealand captain Ross Taylor slog-sweeps one during his magnificent 95-run knock in the first one-day international of the Micromax Cup tri-series against India at the Rangiri Dambulla International Cricket Stadium in yesterday.

Clash in DU football match

SPORTS REPORTER

Three students and two staff members of Dhaka University were hurt while three teachers of the same university were harassed when a clash broke out between students of two departments over the role of referee in a football match yesterday.

The incident took place at the Central Playground of the university at around 5:15pm when students of Pali and Buddhist Study department and Islamic History and Culture department engaged into the clash following a semifinal match in the inter-department football tournament.

Witnesses said while trailing the match 3-0, students and players of Pali department tried to harass the match referee accusing him of partiality. Two teachers of Islamic History and Culture department and a

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Team leaves tomorrow

SPORTS REPORTER

A 13-member squad leaves tomorrow for Singapore to take part in the First Youth Olympics to take place from August 14-26.

Of 26 disciplines, Bangladesh will take part in only three -- archery, swimming and shooting as archer Emdadul Haq Milon and shooter Sadia Sultana qualified for the Olympics directly through the Asian Youth Games.

Apart from the duo, archer Beauty Ray and swimmers Jewel Ahmed, Mahfizur Rahman and Sonia Akter will

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Kiwis crush India

Cricket

AFP, Dambulla

Veteran paceman Daryl Tuffey grabbed three wickets in a sharp opening spell to bowl New Zealand to a record 200-run win over India in the opening match of the Micromax Cup triangular one-day series on Tuesday.

The 32-year-old fast bowler finished with 3-34 off eight disciplined overs as India were shot out for their lowest-ever total of 88 against New Zealand while chasing a challenging 289-run target in the day-night match.

It was New Zealand's biggest one-day victory over India by run-margin, the previous being by 108 runs at Dunedin in 1990.

Sri Lanka are the third team in the tournament. Each side will play the other twice in the preliminary league before the top two qualify for the final on August 28.

New Zealand were indebted to skipper Ross Taylor (95) and all-rounder Scott Styris (89), who put on a record 190 for the fourth wicket to help their team set a stiff target.

India virtually lost the match in the opening 12 overs when they were reduced to 50-4, with Tuffey taking three wickets and Kyle Mills one.

Tuffey also had a hand in the run-out of skipper Mahendra Singh Dhoni, who could make only two to leave his team tottering at 53-5 in the 14th over.

Ravindra Jadeja (20), Virender Sehwag (19)

and Dinesh Karthik (14) were the only batsmen to reach double-figures in India's dismal batting performance against New Zealand's pace.

Fast bowlers Mills and Jacob Oram bagged two wickets each.

New Zealand were earlier struggling at 28-3 after winning the toss before Taylor and Styris came to their rescue with their big stand.

Their partnership was New Zealand's best for the fourth wicket in one-day internationals, the previous highest being 168 between Lee Germon and Chris Harris against Australia in the 1996 World Cup quarter-final at Chennai.

Taylor looked set to complete his fourth one-day hundred when he was trapped leg-before by left-arm seamer Ashish Nehra, who was the most successful bowler with 4-47.

The New Zealand captain hit one six and eight fours in his 113-ball knock.

India paceman Praveen Kumar did the early damage when he had opener Martin Gupthill caught behind for 11 and then bowled debutant Kane Williamson for no score in his lively opening spell.

Nehra was the other wicket-taker in the initial overs, having opener Peter Ingram caught behind for 12.

India then had to wait for more than 31 overs to get another wicket as Taylor and Styris applied themselves remarkably well to boost the innings.

Styris was bowled by left-arm spinner

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Akhtar eyes ODI return in 2011 WC

ANI, Karachi

Pakistan fast bowler Shoaib Akhtar, who is poised to make his return to international cricket in the two Twenty20 games against England, is eyeing a ODI comeback during the 2011 World Cup.

According to sources, Shoaib is working hard on his fitness, and wants to play in the mega tournament to be staged in the Indian subcontinent before announcing his retirement.

The 34-year-old was overlooked for the Test series against Australia and England, but was part of the team that played two Twenty20 games against Australia.

Earlier, last month, Pakistan's fitness trainer David Dwyer had said that Shoaib was an integral part of the national team's ODI and Twenty20 plans.

"Shoaib has lost a lot of weight and that's encouraging. He's definitely not in peak fitness," The Daily Times quoted Dwyer, as saying.

BCB's contrasting statements

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) president AFM Mustafa Kamal gave a small dose of how the country's richest sports body is running at the moment.

The BCB boss risked a chaos when he confirmed the appointment of former South African all-rounder Lance Klusener as a bowling coach and Julien Fountain as a fielding coach to a Bengali daily on Monday although his other colleagues have maintained that they are yet to confirm the selections.

"I'm not aware about it. But since the supreme authority [President] confirmed it then there is no question about it. But what I can say is that we are very close to the deal with Klusener and Fountain as they are the fittest candidates as per our considerations," said media committee chairman Jalal Yunus.

Yunus however didn't want to make any comment when asked whether it was the right way to disclose the news only to one newspaper rather than making an official announcement. A number of speculative reports over the national team's supporting staff appointment over the last few days have been published as the concerned authority repeatedly said that they had not finalised the names.

BCB's cricket operations committee chairman Enayet Hossain Siraj kept to his earlier

position by saying that they were yet to finalise the names.

"As far as I know the deals are yet to be done because it's supposed to be discussed in the technical committee meeting. So I can't say we confirmed the appointment of the bowling and fielding coaches," said Siraj.

To avoid the embarrassing situation, there was an opinion in the board that it's better to give a press release confirming the appointments but they stepped back from the notion to avoid even more embarrassment, as Klusener and Fountain are yet to give their consent.

The confusion and contradictory statements simply portrayed the lack of professionalism in the board activities. Everybody was surprised by the way BCB president disclosed the news but it is actually the real picture of a board where the lack of coordination is a common scenario.

Interestingly this president, just three months back, had a different opinion about providing any information to the media.

"As the BCB president, I'm not the right person to say anything about it. You must come through the proper channel [media committee] if you want to know about it. It's not my duty to provide information to the media," he said then when asked about the resignation of Aziz Al Kaiser Tito as a marketing committee chairman.

It seems that he has forgotten his wise words within a very short span of time.

32 booters picked for Asian Games camp

Football

SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh Football Federation has announced a 32-member preliminary squad for the Asian Games in Guangzhou, China in November.

The 32-member initial squad which will be curtailed to a final 25, retains all but one from the 24-member side that lifted the SA Games at home in February. From the 25-member squad of SA Games, only striker Touhidul Islam Siddique has been dropped while midfielders Shafiqul Islam Bipul of Chittagong Mohammedan and Anisul Islam Sweet of Rahmatganj MFS have been called for the national duties for the first time.

The four senior players along with these young ones are goalkeeper Aminul Haq, defender Wali Faisal, striker Enamul Haque, and defender Mohammad Sujon. Sujon will most likely face the cut as each side is allowed to play only three players in their respective side in the U-23 meet of the Games.

"First we considered the players of the U-23 squad that became champions in the South Asian Games at home and then the performance of respective players in the last Bangladesh League came into consideration," said head coach Saiful Bari Titu yesterday.

"We have picked the best available players for the Asian Games," said Titu, who guided the national team in the AFC Challenge Cup finals in Colombo in February last.

It was learnt that defender Mohammad

Sujan has been kept in the squad only to put pressure on the three other senior players so that they do not consider their selection choice automatic.

However, replying to such a query, Titu said that the defender was chosen because he performed well in the last professional football league.

The camp will get underway on August 20 at the Bangladesh Krira Shiksha Protisthan and continue till September 20 before the players will be given break for their club commitments.

Titu said that he would emphasise on the physical fitness of the players to take them back to the level they were during the SA Games.

The players have been out of practice since the completion of the Bangladesh League in June even though they are being hired for different competitive tournaments.

SQUAD

Aminul Haq, Mazharul Islam, Nehal, Mostaqur Rahman, Mamun Mia, Ariful Islam, Atiqur Rahman Mishu, Mezbabul Haq Manik, Mintu Sheikh, Wali Faisal, Mamunul Islam, Rezaul Karim Reza, M Sujon, Nasirul Islam, Intiaz Sultan Jitu, Monayem Khan Raju, Zahed Parvez Chowdhury, Shakil Ahmed, Zahid Hossain, Habibur Rahman Shohag, Shafiqul Islam Bipul, Shahedul Islam Shahed, Arup Kumar Baidya, Anisul Islam Sweet, Alamgir Kabir Rana, Mobarak Hossain, Zahid Hasan Emily, Abdul Baten Komol, Mithun Chowdhury, Touhidul Alam Sabuz, Enamul Haque and Mohammad Yusuf.

Back throws Bolt out

AFP, Paris

World sprint sensation Usain Bolt on Tuesday ruled himself out of the rest of the 2010 season because of a back problem that affects his striding power.

The Jamaican, who won gold in both the 100 and 200 metres at the 2008 Beijing Olympics and the 2009 worlds, and is world record holder in both events, suffered his first defeat in two years when beaten by American Tyson Gay in the 100m in Stockholm on Friday.

After that outing, Bolt underwent medical examinations and was told by Dr Hans Mueller-Wohlfahrt in Munich on Monday that he risked injuring his hamstring or calf if he continued to race with a tightness in his lower back.

According to Mueller-Wohlfahrt, that tightness restricts the Jamaican's ability to generate power in his stride.

Bolt has now withdrawn from the IAAF Diamond League meetings in Zurich and Brussels, the latter August 27 meeting tagged as a showdown between the Jamaican, Gay and former world record holder Asafa Powell, also of Jamaica.

Bolt's agent Ricky Simms said in a statement: "With a view to his future career we believe further treatment to loosen his back followed by a period of rest will be in his best interest."

"We are delighted to report that the MRI scan on his Achilles tendon showed that it has now completely healed."

Bolt added: "I am very disappointed to miss two of the top meetings on the circuit -- Zurich and Brussels -- but trust that it is better for me not to take any risks this year."

"2011 and 2012 are very important Championship years [with the worlds in Daegu and Olympics in London respectively] and I hope to be back fully fit and healthy."

"I would like to thank everyone for their support and look forward to coming back stronger next year," said Bolt.

The Jamaican, whose early season form was hampered by an ongoing Achilles problem, brings the curtain down on a summer during which he has clocked the season's joint fastest time in the 100m (9.82sec in Lausanne along with Powell) and fastest in the 200m (19.56 in Kingston).

In Stockholm last weekend, Gay clocked 9.84sec with Bolt in second in 9.97sec -- far from his world record mark of 9.58sec -- and left complaining about his lack of power.

Even Gay, the second fastest man in the history of the event, acknowledged that Bolt was not at peak fitness.

"I look forward to beating him when he is 100 percent," the American said at the time.

Bolt said: "I still need to work on my strength. The first 10 metres was crap. I had no power, no nothing. I have tried to work on it but it didn't work out."



USAIN BOLT

Usha will not be relegated

SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh Hockey Federation will appear in court within the next week to explain the circumstances of their decision about last season's farcical Club Cup hockey final between Mohammedan and Usha.

"The court did not direct us to reconsider the result of the Club Cup final and we will explain the circumstances under which we were forced to take that decision," said BHF general secretary Khandoker Jamiluddin after its governing body meeting at the federation office yesterday.

Mohammedan Sporting Club were declared the champions in the final that ended 15 minutes before the regulation time.

"However, in line with the directives of the court, the meeting has decided not to relegate Usha KC to the First Division from the Premier Division," said Jamiluddin.

As per the bylaws of the just-concluded Premier League,

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SPORTS POLL

TODAY'S QUESTION

Do the Tigers need a bowling coach?

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