

## Career highlight kung fu kick

Manchester United legend Eric Cantona has claimed that his infamous kung fu-style kick on a Crystal Palace fan was the highlight of his career. The Frenchman was banned in 1995 after launching himself into the crowd with a kick at Palace fan Matthew Simmons after being sent off. Cantona admitted the incident was a mistake but that he did it to "make fans happy". Asked on BBC's Football Focus what the highlight of his career was, Cantona said: "When I did the kung fu kick on the hooligan, because these kind of people don't have to be at the game."



# Humiliation written on captain's face

BISHWAJIT ROY

Bangladesh captain Shakib Al Hasan tried his best to hide his frustration as much as he could, but the young captain's expression after his team's humiliating nine-wicket defeat showed that West Indies had pulled them down to earth yesterday. In his brief career Shakib embraced defeats many times besides some brilliant successes, but what happened at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur on Friday was something new for him which he would never try to recall. Previously, the all-rounder always came down hard whenever he faced any bitter question, what to some extent has earned him a bad name in media, but he was as humble as he could be while addressing a post-match briefing after his side's capitulation. "We have to sit down and think about what happened today," was the answer from the Bangladesh skipper who added: "It was not our day." Bangladesh recorded their lowest ODI total at their favourite venue when they were bundled out for 58 runs in 18.5 overs which West Indies overcame in just 12.2 overs losing one wicket to

finish the day-nighter in shortest possible time. Even the word 'mismatch' was not good enough to describe how pathetic the defeat was for the Tigers in front of a capacity-crowd and the batsmen were the main culprits behind the disaster and they simply brought back the old horrors of Bangladesh batting. When the World Cup draw was done Bangladesh consciously thought that the West Indies were the only big team they could beat beside two Associate Member countries Ireland and Netherlands to ensure their quarterfinals berth. But it now turned into a nightmarish experience for them. "It was a bad day for our cricket as we played poor cricket in the middle. It was definitely the worst day in my cricket career also, but you never know things can get even worse in future," admitted Shakib when asked whether

it was the saddest day in his career. Praising the West Indies bowlers, Shakib admitted that there was a lack of application in their batting. "Nothing went right except winning the toss. We didn't bat well. Expectation was high because of our last 12 months' performances but we could not carry that in today's match." The heartbreaking defeat now made the equation difficult for the Tigers to qualify for the quarterfinals but the Bangladesh skipper said that everything was not over for them as they still had three matches to play. "It's very tough now but not impossible to qualify for the quarterfinals. Still we have a chance because we have three group matches in our hand and we must win two. I believe the batsmen will come back hard in the next games because they are capable to do better," hoped Shakib. Bangladesh have six days before their next game against England on March 11 in Chittagong and Shakib said that they had to work hard during the break if they were to get out of this hiccup. "The time might have come for the Bangladesh think-tank to accept the fact that their batting was never out of

BANGLADESH'S LOWEST ODI TOTALS			
Score	Opposition	Ground	Year
58	West Indies	Dhaka	2011
74	Australia	Darwin	2008
76	Sri Lanka	Colombo	2002
76	India	Dhaka	2003



LEADING THE CHARGE: West Indies captain Darren Sammy celebrates after picking up Bangladesh opener Imrul Kayes's wicket during their World Cup match at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium yesterday.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

To get this picture email to pics11@ovi.com



## Shakib's home under attack

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Magura

A few frustrated fans attacked Bangladesh captain Shakib Al Hasan's Magura resident, leaving a window-pane broken after Bangladesh were heavily beaten by the West Indies in a crucial World Cup game in Dhaka yesterday. A witness said that a few irate fans riding on motor-bikes at about 8:00pm hurled stones towards the two-storied building, situated at Keshabmor in Magura that left the glass of Shakib's room on the top floor broken. "I went to the mosque to offer prayers and heard that some unidentified people did it," said Shakib's father Mashrur Reza, adding that no one was injured. Soon after the incident, police rushed to the spot to make sure that no further damage is done. Abdur Rakib Khan, officer in charge of Magura Sadar Police station, said that the incident was a sporadic one and that police have been deployed.

# Walk of fools: Part II

MOHAMMAD ISAM

It was a disaster waiting to happen, a train-wreck that finally piled up at the feet of their well-planned opponents. The West Indies team, so fresh after the game that they played football, exposed what was already exposed of the Tigers: a poorly equipped and overly tinkered Bangladesh middle-order that performs only

when it suits them. For the second game in a row, the Tigers skipper Shakib Al Hasan's dismissal mirrored the team's mental make-up. To the naked eye, it seemed Shakib's heart was telling him to sweep while the mind tried to play straight. He got stuck in between, missing Sulieman Benn's tossed-up delivery. It was the similarly bewildering return catch he popped against Ireland that spelled doom for the Tigers, only to be retrieved but when you are bowled out for 58, there is no room for a comeback.

It so happened yesterday that the Tigers were laid bare in front of a world audience during a World Cup game they should have won. The Tigers, particularly their engine-room of batting, have been put through stern tests and time and again, they have flattered to deceive. Against India and Ireland, the Tamim Iqbal-Imrul Kayes opening pair gave Shakib Al Hasan & co a big enough foundation to score from but on both occasions, the batsmen threw away the opportunity. Times have truly changed for the Tigers as their opening stand now provides both the fireworks and the solidity, figures alone proving their worth. But for the ever-rotating middle-order, it has been the opposite. Had it not been for Tamim and Imrul over the last two years, Bangladesh would have missed out on a lot of successes and had to be content with the tag of "also-rans" in the World Cup, as batting alone does half the job for this improving side so reliant on inspiration. Tamim and Imrul failed to provide that platform for the first time in this tournament, going against the team management's wish to hold back the shots for at least ten overs. Tamim was tempted into a loose drive by Kemar Roach off the third ball of the first over, before Imrul fell to the West Indies captain for just five. But the implosion that followed was extraordinary. The scorecard made for incredible reading: the West Indies using just three bowlers to bowl 18.5 overs to complete the job. Junaed Siddiqui's swinging willow showed how good the wicket was, at least for the Tigers, but Mushfiqur Rahim's aerial flick off a straight Darren Sammy delivery confirmed it would be another

# 'Not a revenge'

QUAZI ZULQUARNAIN ISLAM

West Indies captain Darren Sammy immediately brushed aside talk of revenge against the Bangladesh team, but his dazzling smile when answering the query during the post match press conference yesterday may have betrayed his true feelings. Minutes after the Caribbean side trounced Shakib Al Hasan's Tigers in one of the most one-sided encounters in World Cup history, the languid Sammy downplayed away claims that West Indies had exacted some sort of revenge for the series whitewash handed to them by Bangladesh in 2009. "For us, this was just another victory," said Sammy even refuting suggestions that their elongated celebrations had in some way portrayed their true feelings. He did concede though that he had not expected the victory to come so easily. "I said yesterday [Thursday] that I had expected Bangladesh to come out hard and I am surprised to have won in this manner, but it shows that if you have a plan and you have guys who can execute it properly, anything is possible." Sammy was quick to praise his charges and said that the outstanding bowling

performance was mostly due to his bowlers putting the ball in the right areas, aided in part by some suicidal Bangladesh batting. "Our guys bowled well and put it in the right areas. We had a plan and the bowlers stuck perfectly to that plan. There were really no demons on this pitch," said Sammy. The first West Indies Test cricketer out of St Lucia had special praise for Chris Gayle who was not feeling his best the night before the game but still came through for the side. "It shows his [Gayle's] commitment to the cause and I am happy he stepped up and came through." Sammy conceded that this might have been a good toss to lose, considering the fact that he admitted that he too would have probably wanted first use of the wicket to put



STROLL IN THE PARK: The West Indies team are a happy bunch as they go about the business of decimating the Bangladesh batting during yesterday's World Cup match at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium.

PHOTO: STAR

SEE PAGE 17 COL 1

**MAX Fairness for MAX Impression**

**MAX Skin Lightening**

**MAX Spot Reduction**

**MAX Sun Protection**

**TODAY'S MATCH**

Match	Time	Venue
Sri Lanka v Australia	3:00pm	Colombo

**Cricket League Of Champions**  
by: IG FUN

12 clubs from seven nations dash for the championship in a Twenty20 cricket tournament. Pick your team and make it to the stratospheric heights of international success in this fast-paced high scoring game.

Download Cricket League Of Champions from <http://store.ovi.com>

**NOKIA**  
Connecting People

Visit the Nokia Playground at Rifles Square. You can WIN an autographed bat by Tamim Iqbal!

**Be The Nokia Match Analyzer**

Australia - Sri Lanka

Australia have gone in with a set strategy in the competition so far. Get in the pace bowlers and get them to do all the damage upfront before getting the lower-quality, spin bowlers. It is here that the Lankans could look to exploit the Australian shortcomings, get into the middle-order and then get the spinners to go against the likes of Ponting, White and David Hussey. Sri Lanka will be overly thrilled with the exploits of Malinga in the last game but they will know that their real challenge will come now. They will need to bat much better than what they have so far against a bowling attack which will be baying for the blood and the onus will lie on their top four.

Md. Towhidul Alam

Send your opinion in 100 words on India - Ireland match to [analysis11@ovi.com](mailto:analysis11@ovi.com). The best analysis will be published.

**ovi**