

Shamsur's
surfing
mishap

SPORTS REPORTER

Batsman Shamsur Rahman suffered a cut lip after a surfboard smacked against him in Cox's Bazar yesterday.

He had to take several stitches but trainer Grant Luden confirmed that it wasn't too serious an injury.

The elite cricketers took lessons from Zafar Alam, the country's most well-known surfer.

Meanwhile, paceman Shahadat Hossain will travel back to Dhaka with the team this afternoon and take part in the rehabilitation process after he suffered a twisted big toe while playing football on Tuesday.

Cheholum of
Sadi today

SPORTS REPORTER



The cheholum of eminent sports journalist and former general secretary of Bangladesh Football Federation Al Musabir Sadi will be held today. A milad mahfil will take place after Asr prayers at his Lalmatia residence.

Sadi's family has requested his well-wishers to attend the milad. Sadi, who worked for various well-known English dailies including The Daily Star, died of bone cancer at the age of 44 on May 20 at a city hospital.

Teams on even terms

Cricket

AFP, Bridgetown

Ishant Sharma grabbed two quick wickets before lunch to give India the upper hand and leave West Indies reeling on 82 for five in the second Test on Wednesday.

The beanpole fast bowler exploited a bouncy Kensington Oval pitch and overcast conditions, removing night watchman Devendra Bishoo and Ramaresh Sarwan in the space of four deliveries.

The West Indies were continuing their response to the Indians' first innings total of 201 on a rain-shortened second morning.

Sharma has been the most successful of the visitors' bowlers, taking three for 31 from 10 overs, after West Indies resumed on their overnight total of 30 for three.

Rain delayed the start of play by 45 minutes, but Sharma bristled with confidence, and gave India early success.

He had Bishoo caught in the gully for 13, fencing at a short, rising delivery in his seventh over, and three

balls later trapped Sarwan lbw for 18 on the back foot with a delivery that moved back from outside the off-stump.

But India failed to make further headway, Shivnarine Chanderpaul and Marlon Samuels batting through the last 45 minutes before the interval to stem the fall of wickets.

India are looking to wrap up their second straight Test series victory over West Indies in the Caribbean.

They will also be looking to create a piece of history by becoming the first Indian side to win a Test and one-day international series in the Caribbean -- but they will also have to overcome their poor history here.

Maheendra Singh Dhoni's team still have cause for optimism though -- following a 10-wicket defeat for Sourav Ganguly's side nine years ago, West Indies have lost six of the last eight Tests they have played at this venue.

SCORES IN BRIEF
INDIA: First innings 201 all out (Laxman 85, Raina 53, Kumar 12; Edwards 3-56; Rampaul 3-38, Bishoo 3-46)

WEST INDIES: First innings overnight 30 for three (Sarwan 18, Bravo 9, Bishoo 13, Chanderpaul 12 not out, Samuels 15 not out; Sharma 3-31x)

Jimmy shines in big Eng victory

Cricket

AFP, London

James Anderson inspired England to a 110-run win over Sri Lanka in the first one-day international at The Oval here on Tuesday.

The Lancastrian took 4-18 as Sri Lanka slumped to 121 all out chasing a revised target of 232 in a rain-shortened match.

England made 229 in their 32 overs after a storm halted play for three hours and Sri Lanka's target was subject to a Duckworth Lewis amendment.

England captain Alastair Cook, in his first game in permanent charge of England's one-day side, was delighted with the performance.

Anderson's opening spell of 3 for 14 from four overs knocked the stuffing out of the Sri Lankan top order and their innings never recovered.

SCORES IN BRIEF

ENGLAND: 229 for 8 (Kieswetter 61, Trott 23, Pietersen 26, Morgan 45, Bresnan 23; Malina 3-40, Lakmal 2-52)

SRI LANKA: 121 all out (Kandamby 19, Mathews 16, Randiv 24, Malina 26; Anderson 4-18, Dernbach 2-25, Swann 3-18)

Result: England won by 110 runs (D/L method).

Man-of-the-match: James Anderson.

Campbell's stint with Academy begins

SPORTS REPORTER

Australian coach Alan Campbell believes that a one-month stint is enough to impart his know-how on the GP-BCB National Cricket Academy players.

If you ask me to groom a boy for a Test position then it's probably not, but I feel in the short-term in a month working day in and day out, two hours a day or two hours in the morning session, then it may be a lot," he said yesterday.

Having arrived early on Wednesday morning, he held his first session with the batsmen and wicketkeepers and found a lot of enthusiasm among the players.

"There may not be a lot to be done either. I've had a look at the players, made my assessment and these boys are pretty talented," added Campbell, who said that his first visit to the country was in 2009 when he ran a Level 3 coaching course.

A wicketkeeper during his playing days, Alan has worked with New South Wales for two decades and had stints with IPL side Kings XI Punjab.

He will also conduct seminars for leading coaches (in batting and wicketkeeping) as well as how to develop a winning culture.

He will also work with the Bangladesh A players during his stay.

Harper quits after criticism

AFP, Bridgetown

Australian umpire Daryl Harper announced on Wednesday he was retiring with immediate effect as an international umpire despite being due to bring down the curtain on his career in the third and final test of the current West Indies v India series.

The 59-year-old - who has stood in 95 tests and 279 international matches in all - took the decision after he came in for heavy criticism from the Indians following the first Test - a match they won - and which many thought was unjustified.

It is also the first time that Bangladesh is going to take part in the World Archery Championship and outside of Asia.

"World-class archers will compete in the championship and our archers have yet to reach that standard. We have a little chance to do better there. However, if the luck favours us, then we can win a surprise medal," said Razibuddin Ahmed Chapan, team leader of the contingent and the general secretary of the Bangladesh Archery Federation.

Some 656 archers from 87 countries will participate in the competition.

The Bangladeshi participants are Emdadul Haque Milon, Ram Krishna Saha and Sajid Sheikh (Recurve bow), Abul Kashem Mamun, Sajjad Hossain and Mohammad Hasan (compound), Mathuri Prima, Nazmin Khatun and Beauty Roy (women's Recurve bow).

Meanwhile, it was learnt that a third member of the Executive Board approved of the deferral of the amendment on the grounds of procedure. The member said that while they supported the idea of only the most meritorious candidates taking on the job of ICC president, the issue of a constitutional amendment needed a more careful and reasoned deliberation than how it had been done in May - by circular resolution, that is, only through written communication. The decision, the Full Member said, was far too important to be decided without a full and proper discussion by the Board.

Stunned scorer

SPORTS REPORTER

Everyone was taken by surprise when Zahid Hasan Emily gave Bangladesh a 36-second lead against Pakistan at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday. But no one was probably as surprised as the hapless chap in charge of the electronic scoreboard.

It took him no less than eight minutes to work out the intricacies of his Powerpoint slide to register a single goal. He worked diligently over his slide and finally succeeded, well in time before Bangladesh scored another.

And while he was sweating over his powerpoint slide, he forgot all that was being portrayed on the giant score board, leaving a few thousand spectators and some hundred journalists equally bemused and amused.

TESTS THROUGH TIME



Kiwi perfection

Graham Gooch once described New Zealand's bowling attack as, "Richard Hadlee at one end, Ilford 2nds at the other". Only the former England captain would have known the Ilford players but the message was clear. Hadlee had to carry his country's bowling attack throughout his 17-year international career.

At the time he retired from international cricket at the age of 39 with a knighthood newly conferred upon him for his services to the game, Hadlee had cemented his place as one of the great fast bowlers of all time, and lifted New Zealand to unprecedented feats in the Test arena. He would forever be remembered as the first bowler to reach 400 Test wickets but apart from his unrivalled dexterity with the ball in hand, he was a hard-hitting batsman with two hundreds to his name.

His father is the former New Zealand captain Walter Hadlee, who died in 2006. After his debut for Canterbury in 1971-72, he formed a fine pairing with brother Dayle, though Hadlee was a firebrand those days.

His expertise grew rapidly and as he shortened his run-up, all the aspects of the model fast bowler were in his grasp.

Since making his debut, Hadlee had some of his greatest moments against Australia. His 130 wickets against the traditional rivals is his best record against any Test opponents. His best bowling performance too was against the Australians.

It was the summer (in the Southern Hemisphere) of 1985 when the Allan Border-led Australians were raw and found Hadlee's accuracy too hot to handle. Already the year had shaped up to be the New Zealander's best in his career, so it was apt that he also got the 9-for before the year was out.

His calculated approach won him few friends but his immaculate data collection was legendary. It is said that Hadlee could tell at any time the exact time, date, place and mode of dismissal.

Skipper Jeremy Coney sent Australia in to bat on a Gabba wicket which, according to Wisden, "seemed to have some moisture in it".

Hadlee took all four wickets to fall on the first day and early on the second, he dismissed Kepler Wessels for 70, and then demolished the rest of the line-up in one of the most outstanding pieces of contemporary Test match bowling.

He took all eight wickets to fall but missed the chance to take all ten by taking a well-judged catch in the deep from Geoff Lawson to give Vaughan Brown his first wicket in Test cricket, whereupon Brown returned the favour by catching Bob Holland. Hadlee returned with figures of 23.4-4-52-9.

It set up New Zealand's first series win on Australian soil. During his career, he took 173 wickets in his side's victories which came in only 22 games of his 86-match career.

On November 12, 1988, he overtook Ian Botham's record of 373 wickets with Kris Srikkanth's wicket, getting there in 19 Tests fewer than the incumbent. Two years later, Hadlee got to 400 wickets with the dismissal of Sanjay Manjrekar in Christchurch, followed by his 100th first-class five-for, against Australia in Wellington.

After being anointed a knight, Hadlee retired in the English summer of 1990. He hammered a match-winning 84-ball 86 in his penultimate Test before bowing out in Edgbaston in the best possible way: taking a wicket.

-- Mohammad Isam

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

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