#### Match-fixing committee sits

SPORTS REPORTER

The match-fixing identification committee of Bangladesh Football Federation went through the video footages of the suspicious match between Brothers Union and Rahmatganj MFS on Thursday.

The four-member committee, headed by Bangladesh Rural Development Board director general Humayun Khalid, sat for the first time at the BFF House to scrutinise the match following allegations of match match-fixing in the ongoing Grameenphone Bangladesh Premier League.

"The committee did not take any decision as they just went through the video footages, especially the moments of the goals and they will watch them again," said BFF's assistant manager Zaber Bin Taher Ansari.

The committee also asked the BFF for a report on the Rahmatganj MFS-Sheikh Jamal Dhanmondi Club's compromised match of last season.

#### Zimbabwe

FROM PAGE 16

Warren Deutrom, the CEO of Cricket Ireland, said that the funding from the two sources would help them quite a lot, while the rest of the money would have to come from within.

"That [funding] will support the three host countries," Deutrom said. "The rest will have to be made up obviously from our own resources. We are just waiting for the green light from the BCB board now."

The BCB has welcomed both invitations, and are looking for a final approval from the directors.

"Yes, we have put forward these requests and as far as we are concerned, we have received positive feedback from both boards. We are awaiting an approval from our board right now," said BCB cricket operations manager Sabbir Khan.

Originally Cricket Ireland had wanted their national cricketers to play a four-day game against Bangladesh as well but that was not possible because there was not enough funding for it.

However, they were not going to turn down an offer to play cricket against a Test nation, whatever the format.

"Our budgets were sorted prior to the BCB's announcement that they wanted to tour here, Deutrom said "Of course, [the offer] is very welcome. It is precisely what the top associates are crying out for and so it was something we could not turn down."

#### Johnson

FROM PAGE 16

"Going into that Test in Joburg, I was unsure if I could perform to be honest. It was at that point where I really just wanted to get away from the game and step back from it," Johnson said in Perth.

"The injury did come at the right time. I'd probably lost a bit of interest in playing the game.

"If I didn't get the injury, if kept going, I could have got dropped and that could have

been it. "That (retirement) could

have been on the cards for

"I guess being away from the media helped a little bit, not copping it day in, day out. So that's been a bit of a relief."

Johnson, who has a reputation for erratic bowling, said he was confident his dark times were behind him, saying he felt mentally and physically stronger than at any previous point in his career.

The 47-Test veteran, with 190 wickets at 31.29, will have the chance to prove his worth in Australia's one-day tour of England in June-July.

He has also taken 168 wickets in 107 one-day

# The battle of the spin kings

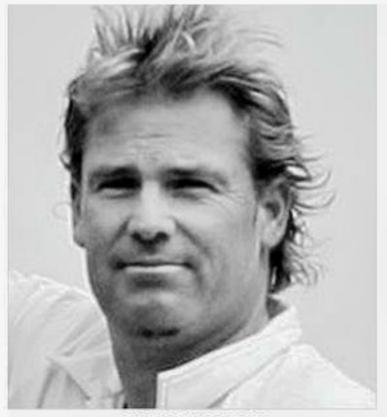
Cricket

SHAFEEN MAJID

Cricket fans of the 1990s and 2000s were privileged to watch two of the finest cricketers to ever don flannels in Shane Warne and Muthia Muralidaran. Warne is probably the greatest leg-spinner of all time and Murali occupies the same rank for off spinners. Who, among the two leading test wicket takers in cricket history is the better?

Before getting down to brass tacks, it should be made clear the margins we are dealing with in comparing players of this level are razor thin. Sometimes, when one says "X is better than Y", the comment is misinterpreted as "Y is absolutely terrible". Both Murali and Warne are amongst the greatest of great players, and any comparison between the two that yields a comparative advantage to one, does not reflect poorly on the other. Just as the runner up in the Miss Universe contest does not become an iota less beautiful for the result, so the number two in a Warne-Muralidaran race loses no lustre.

Murali's greatness lay in his ability to turn the ball sharply. Accuracy for an off spinner is common, but Murali, while being even more accurate than most, added vicious turn from almost all surfaces (as well as bamboozling flight). Warne's greatness rests on accuracy; the great Arthur Mailey spun the ball sharply but was inaccurate, his successor Clarrie



**SHANE WARNE** 



**MUTHIA MURALIDARAN** 

Shane Warne	Average	Strike Rate	Economy Rate	
First Class	26.11	56.7	2.76	
Test	25.41	57.4	2.65	
ODI	25.73	36.3	4.25	
20-20	25.81	21.6	7.15	

M Muralidaran	Average	Strike Rate	Economy Rate
First Class	19.64	48.7	2.42
Test	22.72	55.0	2.47
ODI	23.08	35.2	3.93
20-20	20.53	19.2	6.41

Grimmett was pinpoint precise but not a huge turner. Warne had the lot. Turn accuracy and all manners of flight, pace, and even degrees of

The critical point in a Warne-Murali comparison is that the ball turning in is harder to play than the ball turning away, when it is turning sharply. In Murali's case, it was almost always turning sharply and on this ground, he can be considered

the greater bowler. Statistics back up this idea convincingly. Murali's average, strike rate and economy rate are superior to Warne's in Test, ODI, 20-20 and even first class cricket.

Statistics are not "everything", but they are undoubtedly "something". If Warne were the better bowler (assuming that the quality of a bowler depends on some combination of ability to take wickets and ability to keep the runs down), what would be the odds that he would finish behind Murali in the three most important statistical measures of a bowler across every form and standard of the game? The odds are greater than flipping a coin 12 times and getting either 12 heads or 12 tails (1 in 2048). When the two men were both still active, the Australian once suggested that Murali's statistical superiority in Test cricket might be due to his having played more cricket against weak teams like Zimbabwe and Bangladesh. Even removing matches played against those two teams, Murali's Test average remains ahead of Warne's, though Warne's strike rate improves to just better than Murali's.

Murali's critics like to highlight the "chucking" issue. This matter goes beyond the scope of this article; all that matters is that cricket's governing body deemed Murali's action legal. Tests indicated that the off break was not thrown, and that the 'doosra' fell within the accepted limits of flexing. If it had not been why would batsmen struggle to differentiate it from the off-break?

Warne supporters tend to cite abstract qualities like "charisma' and "flair" to justify the Australian's superiority over Murali. What such arguments boil down to is that these fans enjoyed watching Warne more What Murali's statistical superiority in everything and at everything comes down to is that he was a better wicket taking bowler and a better run saving bowler. More simply put a

## Bangalore crush hapless Pune

SPORTS DESK



Despite making a host of changes, Pune Warriors crashed to a 35-run defeat against Royal Challengers Bangalore during their IPL match at the Subrata Roy Sahara Stadium in Pune yesterday.

Chasing 174 to win, Pune found themselves on the back foot straight away after a superb opening over from Zaheer Khan saw him snare both Manish Mishra and Manish Pandey within two balls of each other.

And when Vinay Kumar got rid of the dangerous Michael Clarke in the fourth over, it was always going to be an uphill task. Robin Uthappa and Anustur Majumdar repaired the innings with two solid knocks but wickets fell at regular intervals and Pune never found themselves close to the asking rate as they crumpled to 138 to fall to a massive defeat.

Kumar was the pick of the bowlers with 3 for 32 but both Zaheer and Muttiah Muralidaran picked up a couple each.

Earlier, batting first, the Royal Challengers Bangalore put up a commanding 173 for 3 in their 20 overs. The underperforming Pune captain Sourav Ganguly had sat out this encounter with Steve Smith taking up the mantle. There were five other changes to the playing XI but none of it seemed to matter to the dynamite Bangalore batting who put up the sheer target despite giving best batsman AB De Villiers just five balls to play.

The stunning Chris Gayle hoisted six deliveries into the crowd as Tillakaratne Dilshan first anchored and then accelerated the innings. Despite a blip from Virat Kohli, even Saurabh Tiwary converted what was iffy start into a useful performance.

After a booming start Gayle was the first to fall with the score reading 80 of which 57 had come from his bat alone. It was just the ninth over of the innings and this was as good a platform as any to build a mammoth total.

But Kohli struggled to keep up the pace and even when he fell in the 12th over, Tiwary did not really manage to accelerate the scoring. But Dilshan intervened at the right time and by the time Tiwary found his groove 173 was the best Bangalore could manage. And ultimately that proved enough. **BRIEF SCORES** 

ROYAL CHALLENGERS BANGALORE: 173 for 3 in 20 overs (Gayle 57, Dilshan 53) PUNE WARRIORS: 138 for 9 in 20 overs (Uthappa 38,

# Lions devour Windies

Cricket

AFP, London

West Indies collapsed to 147 all out against the England Lions on Thursday in what the tourists will hope isn't a taste of things to come during next week's first Test against England at Lord's.

Only Darren Bravo with 51, in what was the West Indies first full innings on tour as a mere 34 overs were possible in last week's rain-marred match against Sussex, prevented an even greater collapse at Northampton. As it was Northamptonshire's Jack

Brooks, a self-confessed "glorified club cricketer" made use of the damp seam and swing-friendly conditions to take three for 23 on his home ground, with Surrey's Stuart Meaker taking three for 42 including a spell of three wickets in 15 balls.

For Brooks it was just the latest chapter in a remarkable tale that only a few years ago still saw him playing village cricket.

"I played village cricket till I was 20 or 21," he said. "I just wasn't very good when I was younger.

"I'm still a glorified club cricketer now. But I've worked really hard on my game and my fitness over the years - with a few gentle pushes along the way from coaches over the

day match began when West Indies captain Darren Sammy was rested by the tourists.

Lions, won the toss from Windies vice-captain Kirk Edwards and had no hesitation in asking the tourists to bat in their final match before next week's first of a three-Test series.

for nought, both fell cheaply to the 27-yearold Brooks, who only made his first-class debut three years ago, and even star batsman Shivnarine Chanderpaul (six) fell cheaply when he miscued a hook off change seamer Matt Coles and was caught on the

as he strove to turn the tide but no sooner had he completed an 86-ball fifty featuring nine fours then he pulled Meaker to mid-on.

Marlon Samuels, whose 32 was the only other West Indies score of note, followed soon afterwards when he was caught behind off Meaker.

There was still time before stumps for Lions opener Joe Root to be lbw to one that kept low from fast bowler Fidel Edwards.

in-form Nick Compton (18 not out) saw the Lions to 40 for one at stumps.

But Michael Carberry (15 not out) and the

### Blue clay will get better

AFP, Madrid

Madrid Masters supremo Ion Tiriac on Friday promised a gradual improvement in traction on the new blue courts which have come under fire from players this week. Rafael Nadal and Novak

Djokovic have led the criticism of the slippery surface and Romanian billionaire Tiriac admits that player complaints are valid. However, he said no one is

complaining about the blue colour which promises a revolution in clarity from the perspective of worldwide television audiences.

"The court is slippery and I apologise," said the former Davis Cup player, manager and impresario who has spent four decades in the game. "We wanted to make sure that we had no player injuries, no ankle problems.

"As a result, the court experts rolled the base with too much pressure. When the blue sand was put on top it was unable to meld with the base, creating the slippage."

But Tiriac said that after striking a maintenance deal with the city of Madrid, the blue courts will remain in place year-round at the Caja Magica and will eventually be as comfortable to play on as traditional red clay.

The tournament advisor spoke at an impromptu meeting of three former presidents of the ATP, American Mark Miles (1990-2005), South African Etienne de Villiers (2005-2008) and Adam Helfant of the US (2009-2012) all guests of the tournament.

Tiriac and Spanish tournament director Manolo Santana gave assurances that despite player protests -- and Nadal's vow never to play here again until the blue is gone -- the situation on court is improving almost on a daily basis.

Tiriac said that the ATP must now deal with any players who have objections, deciding if they must compete or face sanctions in 2013.

#### McDermott FROM PAGE 16

the West Indies next southern summer.

McDermott has been prominent in the development of young fast bowlers James Pattinson, Pat Cummins and Mitchell Starc along with the renaissance of senior bowlers Ben Hilfenhaus and Peter Siddle.

"It has been a great honour to work with our most exciting bowlers over this period and we have achieved much success," he said.

### Abahani's Lucky charm

Abahani launched the first attack in the 11th minute from the right wing but Ibrahim took way too long to unleash his shot as the chance went begging. However, the Dhanmondi-based outfit did not waste much time to take the lead. Just one minute later, Abahani went ahead through a

curling shot from Lucky who was fed by Zahid and the lead was doubled on 21 minutes. Lucky this time availed a through-pass from Ibrahim to

enter the box by dodging past two defenders before placing the

ball home and he came nearer to completing his hattrick on 26th minute but the Nigerian squandered the sitter. Lucky however did not waste his next opportunity to complete his league's second hattrick. Zahid put a through ball from the right and Lucky raced to the box to unleash a powerful

second half. On 57 minutes, Lucky struck his 13th goal of the league with a header after a Rahmatganj's substitute goalkeeper MN Shakil parried Zahid's chip to his path.

Abahani's Iranian coach Ali Akbar sent on local strikers Shakawat Hossain Rony, Mohammad Robin and Shahedul Alam Shahed in place of Jitu, Lucky and Ibrahim later on but they failed to impress as the margin remained the same. The match | suffered a 3-0 defeat against was also held out for four minutes due to bad light and the | Bangladesh Ansar in their

#### Army, Air Force in v'ball final

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Army and Bangladesh Air Force moved to the final of the Walton National Volleyball Championship beating their respective rivals in semifinals at the Volleyball Stadium yesterday.

Holders Army defeated Bangladesh Police 25-18, 25-15 and 25-12 but Air Force had to toil hard against Bangladesh Navy before recordright-footer to make the margin 3-0 three minutes into the ing a 3-2 sets win in the second semi.

In women's section, BJMC thrashed Chittagong in 3-0 sets while Kishoreganj posted an identical 3-0 win over Dhaka University who also floodlights were brought into effect to get the game underway second game.



### 고급에의 의송에(전치 <u>쎋</u>된(급교

(বাংলাদেশ ইস্পাত ও প্রকৌশল কর্পোরেশন এর একটি প্রতিষ্ঠান) ২৬৫-২৬৭, টংগী শিল্প এলাকা, গাজীপুর।

website www.atlas.gov.bd

### ষ্টেশনারী ও মুদ্রন দ্রব্যাদি ক্রয়ের জন্য টেন্ডার বিজ্ঞপ্তি

জাতীয় অগ্রগতিতে বিএসইসি'র আন্তর্জাতিক মানের পণ্যসামগ্রী ব্যবহার করুন।

ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক, এটলাস বাংলাদেশ লি:, টঙ্গী শিল্প এলাকা, গাজীপুর কর্তৃক অভিজ্ঞতা সম্পন্ন প্রকৃত প্রস্তুতকারক / মুদ্রুণকারী / সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিকট হইতে ষ্টেশনারী ও মুদ্রণ দ্রব্যাদি সরবরাহের জন্য সীলমোহরকৃত খামে দরপত্র আহবান করা যাইতেছে ঃ

দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি নম্বর	বিবরণ ও	জামানতের টাকা	দরপত্র খোলার	দরপত্র সিডিউলের
ও তারিখ	পরিমাণ	(ফেরতযোগ্য)	তারিখ ও সময়	মূল্য
এবিএল/ক্রয়/২৬২ তাং- ৩-৫-২০১২খ্রিঃ।	ষ্টেশনারী ও মুদ্রণ দ্রব্যাদি (২৫ প্রকার)	হাজার) টাকা।	২৮-৫-২০১২ খ্রিঃ তারিখ সকাল ১২.০০ ঘটিকায় বন্ধ এবং একই দিন দুপুর ১২.১৫ মিনিটে খোলা হইবে।	(দুইশত) টাকা

- বর্ণিত ষ্টেশনারী ও মুদ্রণ সামগ্রীর বিস্তারিত বিবরণ ও শর্তাবলী সম্বলিত দরপত্র সিডিউল অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে এটলাস বাংলাদেশ লিমিটেড, টঙ্গী-এর হিসাব বিভাগ এবং বাংলাদেশ ইস্পাত ও প্রকৌশল করপোরেশন, "বিএসইসি ভবন", ১০২, কাজী নজরুল ইসলাম এভিনিউ, ঢাকা-১২১৫ এর হিসাব বিভাগের ক্যাশ শাখা হতে নগদ মূল্যে ক্রয় করা যাবে।
- এবিএল এর ভান্ডার বিভাগে রক্ষিত নমুনা ও সিডিউলে বর্ণিত Specification অনুযায়ী দরপত্র দাখিল করিতে হইবে।
- দরপত্র খোলার দিন কোন সিডিউল বিক্রয় করা হবে না।
- এটলাস বাংলাদেশ লিমিটেড এর ক্রয় বিভাগ এবং বাংলাদেশ ইস্পাত ও প্রকৌশল করপোরেশনের ক্রয় বিভাগে রক্ষিত দরপত্র বাক্সে দরপত্র ফেলা যাবে। দরপ্রস্তাবসমূহ উপস্থিত দরদাতাদের (যদি কেহ উপস্থিত থাকেন) সম্মুখে উপরোল্লিখিত স্থানসমূহে নির্ধারিত সময়ে খোলা হবে।
- খামের উপর দরপত্রের নম্বর এবং সামগ্রীর বিবরন স্পষ্টভাবে লিখতে হবে।
- ৬। কর্তৃপক্ষ টেভারকৃত মালামালের পরিমান্ত্রাস/বৃদ্ধি করিতে পারিবেন। অনিবার্য কারন বশতঃ দরপত্র খোলার দিন অফিস বন্ধ থাকিলে পরবর্তী কার্যদিবসে একই সময়ে ও স্থানে উহা খোলা হবে।
- যেহেতু মৌলিক, সৃজনশীল, রুচিশীল ও আকর্ষণীয় ডিজাইন ও নমুনা নির্বাচনকে প্রাধান্য দেয়া হবে, সেহেতু সর্বনিম্ন দরদাতাকে কাজ প্রদানে কর্তৃপক্ষ বাধ্য নন। ৮। কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকেই যে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ, বাতিল বা সকল দরপত্র
- বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।

বি:দ্র: দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রতিষ্ঠানের website www.atlas.gov.bd তে পাওয়া যাবে।

(মোঃ আনোয়ার হোসেন) ভারপ্রাপ্ত ক্রয় বিভাগীয় প্রধান ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালকের পক্ষে ফোন ঃ ৯৮০২৩২৭।

years, who've told me to start believing in my There was surprise even before the four-

James Taylor, skipper of the second-string

Opener Adrian Barath and Edwards, out

Bravo played some typically stylish shots

# Victoria sails, Maria fails



AFP, Madrid

Top seed Victoria Azarenka saw off China's Li Na wih a 3-6, 6-3, 6-3 battling win into the semifinals of the Madrid Masters on Friday.

The Belarus world num-

ber one will await an opponent from Agnieszka Radwanska, the Polish fourth seed, and American qualifier Varvara Lepchenko. Azarenka, January's

Australian Open champion, levelled her record against Roland Garrros holder Li at 4-4 with the victory. Eighth seed Li, still looking for her first title of the season, lost for the seventh time in 2012 against 18 wins.

She was playing her second clay quarter-final after Stuttgart. Serena Williams won a battle of former number one players as she defeated second seed Maria Sharapova, the Stuttgart champion over Azarenka, 6- 🙎 1, 6-3 with 11 aces, 28 win-

in 80 minutes. Azarenka said that after 5 losing the opening set against Li, she still has no idea how she was able to turn the

ners and five breaks of serve

just under two hours.

match around for victory in Ukrainian Alexandr Dolgopolov 6-3, 6-4 in a 10-Argentine tenth seed Juan ace performance after del Potro won the first of the winning last week's Estoril men's quarters as he put out title on clay.



Victoria Azarenka of Belarus returns against Li Na of China during their quarterfinal match at the Madrid Open yesterday.