

Tigers return home today

SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh cricket team returns to the capital today from Amsterdam after completing a mixed bag tour of Europe...

Mohammad Ashrafal and Jahurul Islam along with coach Richard Pybus, fielding coach Jason Swift and bowling coach Shane Jurgenson are expected to reach the country next month...

Tamim Iqbal headed the batting chart with 214 runs while Shakib Al Hasan was the only other to score more than hundred runs...

Emeka's stern warning

SPORTS REPORTER

Mohammedan Sporting Club's Nigerian coach Emeka Ezeugo has threatened to take the matter of his 'alleged' unpaid wages to a higher authority...

The Nigerian coach in a press conference on Saturday said that he has not been paid a single penny after he took charge of the team on November 27 last year.

"They did not pay me anything till now after I took charge of the team. I'm owed one lakh and three thousand dollars from them including my salary and the transfer fees of the six players I brought for them from Nigeria," Emeka said in the press meet at a city hotel yesterday.

Emeka claimed that according to his contract with Mohammedan he was supposed to be paid 2,500 dollars per month, 300 dollars as bonus for each match won, 5,000 dollars as reward for finishing third in the league, and reimbursement for air tickets...

"I know the BFF will not be able to do a lot since some of the Mohammedan officials are directly involved with the Bangladesh football's governing body. I am just going through the proper channel," Emeka said.

"I know myself, my powers as well. I would take this matter to the highest place if needed," Emeka added.

Lokman Hossain Bhuiyan, director and member in charge of Mohammedan SC Ltd., earlier denied Emeka's claim and said, "We have already given him 16,500 dollars out of his seven-month salary of 17,500 dollars in three phases."



US tennis superstar Serena Williams smashes a forehand during her Olympics women's singles victory over Serbia's Jelena Jankovic at the All England Tennis Club in London yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

Serena off the blocks

AFP, London



Wimbledon champion Serena Williams marked the return of the Olympics to the All England Club with a brutal 6-3, 6-1 demolition of Jelena Jankovic on Saturday.

Serena, who was cheered on from the players' box by US First Lady Michelle Obama, ended a two-year Grand Slam title drought with her Wimbledon final victory over Agnieszka Radwanska 21 days ago...

While Serena soared, two of her big name peers crashed out of the Olympics as China's Li Na lost to Slovakia's Daniela Hantuchova and Australia's Samantha Stosur slumped to defeat to Spain's Carla Suarez Navarro.

The genteel surroundings of Wimbledon have a well-earned reputation for a rather sedate atmosphere, but there was a sense the famous old venue has let its hair down for the Olympics.

A concert by British band the Pet Shop Boys on Henman Hill opened the event, and all the courts were decked out in the purple Olympic livery...

Shahadat blazes, with the bat



SPORTS REPORTER

The unlikely batting pair of Mominul Haque and Shahadat Hossain gave Bangladesh A the crucial first innings lead against Baroda Cricket Association XI on the second day of the Dell-KSCA Shafi Darashah cricket tournament at the KSCA Cricket Ground in Alur yesterday.

After BCA XI were stunted on the first day by being restricted to 202 all out, the second string Bangladesh side ended the day on 314 all out, taking a lead of 112 runs.

But the 300-plus score only came thanks to a holding job by the young left-hander Mominul and a stunning counter-attack by the tail-ender Shahadat.

After falling to 206-7 at the end of the 66th over, Shahadat hammered an unbeaten 76 off 69 balls with seven fours and a six.

Mominul chipped in with 66 off 109 balls with seven fours and a six, the three-hour knock having sustained the innings during the regular wickets that fell during his stay.

Bangladesh A made a decent enough start but lost openers Imrul Kayes and skipper Shahriar Nafees by the twelfth over.

Wicketkeeper-batsman Mohammad Mithun and Dollar Mahmud added 52 for the sixth and seventh wicket

instead donned the colours of their nations. Former Wimbledon finalist Tomas Berdych was the first big-name to tumble in the men's singles as the Czech sixth seed lost 6-4, 6-4 to Steve Darcis...

Berdych, beaten by Rafael Nadal in the 2010 Wimbledon final, suffered a shock Wimbledon first round exit this year against Ernests Gulbis and Darcis took advantage of another error-strewn display from the Czech to seal his first Olympic win...

"It's an amazing feeling," Darcis said. "When you're young you watch Pete Sampras playing on Centre Court and you think maybe one day. Today it was my day. I played a great match."

Serbia's Janko Tipsarevic defeated former Wimbledon finalist David Nalbandian of Argentina 6-3, 6-4, while John Isner, the 6ft 9in American 10th seed, won his little and large battle with Olivier Rochus...

In the women's singles, Belgium's Kim Clijsters enjoyed her first taste of the Olympics as the four-time Grand Slam champion moved into the second round with a 6-1, 6-4 win over Italy's Roberta Vinci.

The 29-year-old, who next faces Australian fifth seed Samantha Stosur or Carla Navarro Suarez of Spain, said: "It's like a virus, it spreads. When you see all the other athletes from your country and the people who follow it, it's hard not to get into it."

Serbian 11th seed Ana Ivanovic, like Clijsters a former world number one, also won on her Olympic debut, beating American Christina McHale 6-4, 7-5. Vera Zvonareva, a 2008 bronze medalist, kicked off her campaign with a 7-6 (7/3), 6-4 win against Sweden's Sofia Arvidsson.

Witty Britain

FROM PAGE 16 applause that greeted the British team, which marched to the David Bowie track "Heroes." A helicopter then showered the athletes and stadium with 7 billion tiny pieces of paper one for each person on Earth.

Boyle's ceremony had spectacle, it had narrative, but it also had jokes and fun. It was cohesive but anarchic and somehow it managed to be both quirky and cheeky.

In short, it was so good at showcasing what it had set out to do that by the end, Caliban's words from the Tempest, that had dominated the show, finally began to sound prophetic.

Britain truly is an isle full of noises, of sounds, and of sweet airs that give delight and hurt not. And in the words of the Beatles song, all you have to do is "let her into your heart".

LONDONdiary 28 July, 2012. Sports Reporter from London. Yohan Blake has beaten 100m world record holder Usain Bolt twice this year. But in Friday's training session the young pretender was looking for other ways to slow down his teammate...

Usha hot on MSC's heels

SPORTS REPORTER

Usha Krira Cahkra kept in touching distance with leaders Mohammedan SC after they defeated Sonali Bank 4-3 in their first match of the Super Five stage of the Green Delta Insurance Premier Division Hockey League at the Maulana Bhasani National Hockey Stadium yesterday.

The Federation Cup winners now have 30 points from 11 matches, three behind leaders Mohammedan and six ahead of third-placed Abahani who have played a match less though. The bankers' team remained a distant fourth with 18 points from 11 matches.

Usha completely dominated the proceedings in the first half taking a 3-0 lead. Usha's Pakistani recruit Mohammad Atique gave them a 19th minute lead from a penalty corner before his compatriot Mohammed Imran made it 2-0 in the 27th minute through a field goal.

On Friday, Chris Gayle marked his return to five-day cricket by hitting 150 as the recalled opener blasted his team towards a healthy lead. Fellow opener Kieran Powell was the other centurion before Assad Fudadun and Deonarine weighed in with half centuries to give the home side a solid edge as the Black Caps struggled even

Palli Mangal beat Garpara

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Manikganj

Dashara Palli Mangal Samity defeated Garpara XI 3-0 in the DFA Cup Football Tournament at the Shahid Miraz-Tapan Stadium in Manikganj yesterday.

Masum scored two goals while Joy added another for the winning side. Joy scored the opening goal in the 14th minute from the penalty spot before Masum scored a brace in the 69th and 73rd minutes to complete the 3-0 victory.

CROSSWORD

ACROSS 36 "For — sake!" 1 Poi base 5 State of matter 8 Cauldron cocconction 12 Start 14 Unusual 15 Minimum score on a golf course 16 One 17 Lamprey, e.g. 18 Invigorants 20 Hurricane, for one 23 Ill will 24 Crones 25 Straightest path 28 Blunder 29 Gladiatorial venue 30 Work measure 32 Harbor city 34 React in horror 35 Chest muscles, for short

Windies lead by 171



AFP, North Sound

The West Indies earned a sizeable 171-run lead as they were all out for 522 in reply to New Zealand's first innings 351 as was lunch was called on the fourth day of the first Test at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium in Antigua yesterday.

Resuming the day on 442 for six, the overnight pair of Narsingh Deonarine and skipper Darren Sammy extended their partnership to 69 runs till Deonarine was bowled by Chris Martin for 79. Sammy however continued till he reached 50 and was ninth man out giving a return catch to Daniel Vettori.

On Friday, Chris Gayle marked his return to five-day cricket by hitting 150 as the recalled opener blasted his team towards a healthy lead.

Fellow opener Kieran Powell was the other centurion before Assad Fudadun and Deonarine weighed in with half centuries to give the home side a solid edge as the Black Caps struggled even

given some swing from the newball. Deonarine ended the day on 54 and had Sammy on eight for company after Fudadin fell to the bowling of Williamson for 55.

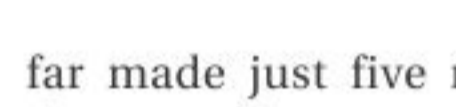
Gayle, who was playing his first Test for more than 18 months due to his stand-off with the West Indies Cricket Board following comments he made about officials in a radio interview, smacked 17 boundaries and four sixes as he made his mark in a 206-ball inning before falling to the bowling of Kane Williamson.

The 32-year-old enabled the hosts to put on 254 for the first wicket alongside Powell before Brendon McCullum took the catch in the deep. Earlier, Gayle had brought up his 14th Test ton by smashing Chris Martin for six over midwicket, having earlier hit four successive boundaries off the same bowler.

Powell also made a century pull to the boundary through square leg off Neil Wagner before going caught behind for 134 including 22 boundaries and a six of 288 deliveries as Wagner bagged his first Test wicket.

But the West Indies carried on regardless of having their openers back in the pavilion

India clinch a thriller



AFP, Colombo

Gautam Gambhir cracked a century and Suresh Raina smashed a brisk 65 not out to power India to a thrilling five-wicket win over Sri Lanka in the third one-day international in Colombo on Saturday.

Opener Gambhir hit an impressive 102 for his 11th one-day hundred and Raina hammered one six and six fours in his 45-ball knock as India achieved a stiff 287-run target with two balls to spare for a 2-1 lead in the five-match series.

India needed six runs to win in the last over, bowled by seamer Angelo Mathews, Irfan Pathan (34 not out) completing the victory with a boundary off the fourth delivery in the day-night match.

Raina and Pathan added 92 off 11.1 overs. Gambhir boosted India's hopes as he added 105 for the second wicket with Virat Kohli (38) and 67 for the next with skipper Mahendra Singh Dhoni (31) before being run out in the 39th over.

Sri Lankan fast bowler Lasith Malinga bowled Dhoni and out-of-form Rohit Sharma off successive deliveries. Sharma has so

SCOREBOARD SRI LANKA: Tharanga Dhanonib Zaheer Dilshan b Zaheer Sangakkara c Kohli b Dinda Chandimal lbw b Pathan Jayawardene lbw b Rahul Mathews not out Mendis not out Extras: (b-2, lb-8, nb-1, w-9) Total: (For 5 wickets in 50 overs) 286 Did not bat: Perera, Herath, Udana, Malinga Fall of wickets: 1-9, 2-19, 3-20, 4-141, 5-182

CRYPTOQUIP YGLAO TMGRU UIA LAZE PKTZU WRZDITPA KTJA MET WZGKCAYU YTLCNTUGZ: "NGGJ MRE, DGORKMRP."

Saturday's Cryptoquip: AS ITS CLEANSING POWDER, I EXPECT A CERTAIN DR. SEUSS CREATURE WOULD PROBABLY BUY LORAX BORAX. Today's Cryptoquip clue: E equals Y