

Journo feels Manzur's ire

SPORTS REPORTER

The festive atmosphere of the players' registration ceremony of Sheikh Jamal Dhanmondi Club took a silly look as Manzur Kader, the president of the club, blasted a journalist as he brought up the contentious issue of match-fixing.

The Sheikh Jamal president, who is well-known in the football circle for being one of the protagonists of the game, is also known for being prone to lose his cool from time to time. The former chairman of Muktiyoddha Sangsad turned the old Dhanmondi Club into a fashionable one, spending lavishly on national team stars and delivered immediate success as the club emerged professional football league champions two years ago.

However, the club's success has often been questioned due to its alleged association in match-fixing, the number one culprit in Dhaka football.

So, when his attention was inevitably drawn on the issue, he came down hard on the reporter saying, "I am not going to hear this rubbish anymore. You and your daily are always trying to belittle our success with baseless reports."

The veteran organiser went on to say that their love of the game is what should everyone consider, nothing else. "We spend a lot for the football of this country and that is only because we love the sport," shouted an enraged Kader to the bemusement of the reporter and his fellow journalists.

BD A-WHP 2nd 1-dayer today

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh A will be looking to bounce back in the second one-day game at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium today. The home side lost the first 50-over game to the visiting West Indies High Performance squad by 11 runs on Friday after the visitors posted a total of 225.

The first game saw good individual performances from Imrul Kayes and Naeem Islam, both of whom scored half-centuries but failed to carry on. In the bowling department, young leggie Marshal Ayub bowled an impressive line and length and ended up picking four wickets in five overs.

The A team, however, will be missing Mominul Haque. The left-handed batsman, who was injured during the four-day game while fielding, is expected to sit out of the second one-day game. "I might join the team for the 3rd and final game," he said.

Live scores of the game will be available on www.digicricket.marssil.com

Siddikur

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of Taipei who celebrated his 44th birthday with a seven-under-par 65. The Taipei veteran is in pole position to take home the title as he opened up a six-shot lead on Baek Seuk-hyun of Korea in second place and Filipino veteran Antonio Lascuna a further shot back in third followed by Malaysia's Danny Chia.

Luke gets

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towards the end of the innings to prop up New Zealand after they were reduced to 67 for four wickets on stage.

The Black Caps, who play West Indies on Monday, are now on the brink of elimination having lost both their Super Eight matches to Sri Lanka and England.

"I think 150 was probably a par total. It was quite hard to start on that wicket," captain Taylor said.

"I thought James' batting was outstanding to get us to that total. We were looking at getting 130-135 at one stage." England, who lost to West Indies in their first Super Eights match, will play hosts Sri Lanka on Monday at the same venue.

SA against Aus juggernaut

PTI, Colombo



On a roll with an all-win record in the tournament so far, a ram-paging Australia would look to beat a demoralised South Africa and seal a semifinal berth in their second Super Eights match here on Sunday. The George Bailey-led side's nine-wicket win over 2007 champions India last night must have done a world of good to their morale after topping Group B with wins over Ireland and the West Indies and they would start as favourites on Sunday.

South Africa, on the other hand, would have to regroup after they shockingly let slip the Super Eights game against Pakistan from a winning position. The Proteas virtually had the game in their bag before allowing Umar Gul to run away with the match later.

The South Africans cannot repeat such a costly mistake against Australia on Sunday as that would mean exit for them and would only strengthen the "chokers" tag labelled on them in big tournaments.

The main worry for South Africa would be how to stop the swashbuckling Australian openers Shane Watson and David Warner, who have become the most successful pair in the T20 Internationals, from dictating terms on their bowlers.

The fast bowlers -- Pat Cummins, Mitchell Starc and Watson -- also came through against India as they produce pace and bounce on a

AUSTRALIA		SOUTH AFRICA	
Played: 55	Played: 50	Played: 55	Played: 50
Won: 29	Won: 32	Won: 29	Won: 32
In 2012	In 2012	In 2012	In 2012
Played: 10	Played: 9	Played: 10	Played: 9
Won: 6	Won: 6	Won: 6	Won: 6
HEAD TO HEAD			
4: 4			
KEY PLAYERS			
SHANE WATSON		DALE STEYN	
Matches: 33	Matches: 26	Matches: 33	Matches: 26
Runs: 895/Wickets: 32	Wickets: 37	Runs: 895/Wickets: 32	Wickets: 37
Highest Score: 81	Economy Rate: 6.39	Highest Score: 81	Economy Rate: 6.39
Average: 30.86/19.62 (B)	Bowling Average: 16.08	Average: 30.86/19.62 (B)	Bowling Average: 16.08

Proper rest, a good bat and Watson!

ANI, Colombo

Australia all-rounder Shane Watson, who has won three consecutive player-of-the-match awards at the ongoing Twenty20 World Cup, has revealed that taking proper rest and a good bat are the two secrets behind his brilliant performance at the mega tournament.

Australia's busiest cricketer admitted he had benefited from being forced to sit out the recent one-day series against Pakistan in the United Arab Emirates.

"I came off a five-week break and I was able to really get some training under my belt but also have a bit of a mental break, to be able to hit this Twenty20 World Cup running," the Sydney Morning Herald quoted Watson, as saying.

"The games in Dubai were a brilliant lead-up for us, the conditions, the heat, and things have fallen my way here. In Twenty20 it's a very fine line between having a good game and having a not-so-good game, so you've got to make the most of these times," he added.

Watson was asked afterwards whether he had been pumping iron, when in fact he has tried to stay out of the gym to avoid more injuries, but he credited his bat for big hitting prowess.

"I'm lucky I have a very good bat, so if you mis-hit it can still go a very long way," Watson said.

Australia would face South Africa on Sunday in their second game of the Super Eights stage.

slowish Premadasa strip though they were expensive against the West Indies in their group match.

Left-arm spinner Brad Hogg has taken two wickets from the three matches he has played so far without being expensive and he can be handfull if the pitch assists slow bowlers.

Faced with a do-or-die situation South Africa would be looking up to fast bowler Dale Steyn and veteran all-rounder Jacques Kallis to come up trumps tomorrow while also hoping that the top-order, including Hashim Amla, post a big total.

Amla and his opening partner Richard Levi have not done much in the two matches after remaining not out in the group match against Zimbabwe and they need to fire against Australia if they want to stay afloat in the tournament.

The Proteas have a solid batting line-up with the likes of Kallis, J P Duminy and captain AB de Villiers coming down the order but they could score just 133 against Pakistan on Friday.

In the bowling front though, it will be interesting to see who does better tomorrow between a relatively inexperienced Australian attack and the South Africans who have veteran fast bowlers in the likes of Steyn, Kallis and the Morkel brothers.

In the spin department, another veteran Johan Botha has not done much in the three matches he played so far, having taken just one wicket but he can come in handy at the slowish Premadasa pitch tomorrow.



West Indies' explosive batsman Chris Gayle has invented his own version of the Gangnam Style dance moves.

Gangnam Gayle

AFP, Pallekele

Maverick West Indian batsman Chris Gayle is dancing down the wicket at the World Twenty20, performing his own energetic version of global hit "Gangnam Style".

The eccentric dance, based on a wacky series of horse-riding moves, has become a worldwide sensation for South Korean musician Park Jae-Sang, attracting over 295 million viewers on YouTube this year.

Gayle's first Gangnam-style celebration came in the match against Ireland, when he grabbed two wickets, and he repeated it after dismissing England's Jonny Bairstow on Thursday in Pallekele.

"I need a producer to produce my gangnam music video...Know any? However I am shooting a amateur gangnam style video tmrw...Will post video," Gayle wrote on Twitter.

Exiled England batsman Kevin Pietersen tried to copy Gayle while he was carrying out his duties as a TV commentator at the ongoing tournament and described it as "one of the most interesting celebrations in cricket".

West Indies captain Darren Sammy said Gayle is enjoying his cricket.

"Chris loves T20," said Sammy. "Since he came back he has been excellent for us, I just hope he will continue. The fans love watching him play."

West Indies beat England by 15 runs in their first Super Eights match on Thursday and face Sri Lanka on Saturday for a place in the semifinals.

LOCAL snippets

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Ispahani Cricket Academy and SS Cricket Academy secured comfortable victories in their respective matches of the FMC-Ambia Academy Cup T20 at Shagarika Divisional Women Sports Complex ground in Chittagong yesterday.

SS CA (125 all out) defeated Port City CA (99-9) by 26 runs in the day's first match. Mithun scored highest 24 runs for SS CA while Masum of the same club took three wickets.

In the day's second match, Ispahani (115-3) recorded a comprehensive 7-wicket victory against Junior CA (114-9). Chasing a 115 runs for victory Ispahani reached the target easily in 18 overs for the loss of 3 wickets. Sudipta of Ispahani was declared player-of-the-match for taking three wickets.

Women's Super League

Tangail, Narayanganj, Thakurgaon amd Bangladesh Ansar & VDP moved to the semifinals of the KFC National Women's Super League after beating their respective rivals in the super league stage yesterday. Tangail thrashed Narshingdi 4-0, thanks to a hattrick from Rikta; Bangladesh Ansar & VDP overcame Jessore courtesy of a solitary goal by Amrunching Marma; Narayanganj edged Satkhira 3-2, thanks to a goal each from Sharifa, Anjuman and Nurzahan while Thakurgaon outplayed Rangamati 4-0 with Munmun grabbing a hattrick. The semifinals will be held on October 1 at the Bangabandhu National Stadium.

Women's kabaddi

Jatrabari KC and Dhaka Wanderers Club won their respective matches of the Duper Four stage of Walton Women's Kabaddi League at the Kabaddi Stadium yesterday. In the first match, Jatrabari defeated Jurain Janata Club by 25-22 points with two lona while in the second match Dhaka Wanderers defeated Azad Sporting Club by 45-13 points with three lona.

Dissent at BFF EGM

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Football Federation held its extra-ordinary general meeting (EGM) at the BFF House yesterday and approved the draft budget for 2012-13 and audit reports of 2007-2011 years, after a few of the councillors walked out of the meeting showing dissent.

The aggrieved councillors, very few in numbers though, later held a press conference at the National Sports Council auditorium where they alleged that they were not given floor to speak at the meeting.

"We were told to shut up as we wanted to raise our issues regarding financial irregularities," said Kamrunnahar Dana, general secretary of Bangladesh Women's Sports Association. "The notice for BFF EGM reached us only on last Wednesday. Then how could we have sent our objections by a prior date?" asked Dana.

However, BFF president Kazi Salahuddin said they followed the constitution thoroughly and the issues on the agenda were approved by everyone except a few who had 'ill motives'.

"We have sent each of the delegates our agenda a month ago and asked for their suggestions or objections by September 12. None but one objection was sent and during an EGM, you cannot raise an issue outside agenda, so we could not let them talk on that," said Salahuddin.

Out of a total of 133 councillors, 109 were present in the meeting.

BCB extends

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of the previous tender, failed. With the series against the West Indies a little more than a month away, the board has taken the decision to sign a media contract just for the series.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Pod occupant
4 "Scram!"
8 A really long time
12 Hooter
13 War-monger
14 Flew the — (fled)
15 Encountered
16 All things U.S.
18 Full of self-esteem
20 Consumed
21 Punch
24 Sudden outburst
28 Its capital is Gaborone
32 Jog
33 "Hail, Caesar!"
34 Impales
36 Charged bit
37 Keg contents
39 Kuznetsova of tennis
41 Cancel

DOWN

1 "— and Circumstance"
2 Basin accessory
3 Counter-tenor
4 Follows secretly
5 Lunch meat
6 Have bills
7 Gumbo
8 Take
9 — long way (last)
10 Many millennia
11 Hot tub
17 "Monty Python" intro
19 Constitution letters
22 Long-running musical
23 Jack
25 Operatic solo
26 Roger Rabbit, for one
27 Sicilian spouter
28 Ali —
29 Microwave
30 Adolescent
31 Help in wrongdoing
35 Rills
38 Gang warfare
40 Super-man foe Luthor
42 Meadow
45 Constantly chew at
47 Lacking slack
48 Shrek is one
49 Kinks hit
50 Danson or Koppel
51 Eggs
52 Wrestling coup
53 Kin of
54 Gist

Solution time: 21 mins.

A	M	I	R	C	L	E	F	O	W
C	O	N	E	A	I	D	A	O	N
H	O	N	E	Y	M	O	O	N	O
K	E	E	N	S	E	N	S	E	
A	D	M	E	N	B	O	G	S	
G	O	O	D	B	R	O	U	G	H
O	N	O	C	R	E	S	T	I	V
G	E	N	E	R	A	L	S	A	N
L	O	O	N	B	L	E	N	D	
C	H	I	N	O	V	E	A	U	
R	A	G	K	E	I	T	H	M	O
E	T	H	E	L	S	A	N	I	C
W	E	T	D	I	A	L	A	L	T

Pan Pacific Petrova's Tennis

REUTERS, Tokyo

Russia's Nadia Petrova upset defending champion Agnieszka Radwanska 6-0, 1-6, 6-3 in the Pan Pacific Open final on Saturday to complete a sensational run at the Tokyo tournament.

It was the 30-year-old's second title of the year after winning a Wimbledon warm-up event in Den Bosch, the 12th and also most prestigious of her career.

"The first and third sets were perfect tennis from my side," Petrova told reporters after winning the WTA premier five event, which featured nine of the world's top 10 women.

"It's the biggest tournament I've ever won," added the Russian, who is set to rise from 18th in the world to 14th. "I never expected I would be in this position. It feels amazing."

Petrova inflicted the dreaded 'bagel' on third seed Radwanska in the first set, taking it with a blistering ace down the middle to rub salt in the wounds.

The Pole quickly turned the tables but Petrova produced some superb tennis in the decider, closing out proceedings with a drive volley before sinking to her knees in delight.

Petrova, who beat top 10 players Sara Errani and Samantha Stosur on her way to the final, enjoyed her best season in 2006 when she won five tournaments.

Winning the 2.16-million-dollar hardcourt event earned Petrova 385,000 dollars.

Radwanska, close to tears during her post-match speech, was left to rue two double-faults in a row which cost her the eighth game of the third set, and ultimately the match.

"I was pissed," said Radwanska, who furiously smashed her racquet on the court after gift-wrapping Petrova a 5-3 lead in the decider.

Sheikh Jamal hoping high

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Abahani, as they lost most of their star players to Abahani and Muktiyoddha Sangsad in the pre-season transfer window.

But this time, even though they do not look like the best of the lot, they seem to have what it takes to be counted as one of the favourites for the title. The side have assembled a solid squad of 23, which is a mixture of youth and experience.

"We are a pretty balanced side this time, solid in defence, good in midfield and attack. Based on the form of the local players, I think we can give a championship fight this time," said Sheikh Jamal president Manzur Kader at the players' registration ceremony at BFF House.

Sheikh Jamal signed up winger Nasir Chowdhury, defenders Ariful Islam, Moffazal Hossain Saikat, midfielder Alamgir Rana and goalkeeper Mashudur Rahman Mustak from Muktiyoddha Sangsad, Moanaem Khan Raju from Sheikh Russel and retained the services of defender Yousuf and striker Sohel Rana while they have lost defenders Atiqur Rahman Meshu, midfielder Abdul Baten Komon, Mintu Sheikh and goalkeeper Aminul Haque.

Their biggest scoop perhaps is the Nigerian hitman Sunday Chizoba, the second highest scorer in the league last season, from Muktiyoddha. And they have acquired a couple of Nigerians -- Joseph Ozurumba and Okemmiri -- who can make a

difference if they prove to be of the quality the club management thinks they are.

The club has also got a new coach in Nigerian Joseph Afusi who was the deputy to Abu Yousuf last season. The club president has expressed his satisfaction about the new coach at the pre-season camp. "I am very impressed with the coach [Afusi]. The coach will have an excellent support staff and think-tank to work with," said Kader.

Midfielder Enamul Huq Sharif was declared the captain of the team.

TEAM
Mostak, Sultan, Raihan, Arup, Nasir, Shaikat, Al-Mamun, Monday, Shakil, Shahed, Sharif, Raju, Rana, Naimur, Okemmiri, Sohel, Masud, Sabuz, Sunday, Mike, Ozurumba.

CRYPTOQUIP

KRAB Y XVSEVBCO KDBA DW
EUUC, XVG GUU SAC, DG
ISUXYXQO WIABG KYO GUU
QUBE DB GRA GYBDB XUUGR.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WERE YOU SUPPOSING THAT VERY OLD CLOVE HITCH WAS STILL IN FINE WORKING CONDITION? FRAYED KNOT!
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: U equals O