Andy's 2-day deadline

SPORT

AFP, London

England coach Andy Flower said he expects an announcement on Kevin Pietersen's future with the side before Thursday as he hoped for a positive resolution to the saga.

The star batsman was cast into international exile in August after sending text messages to touring South Africa players that contained criticism of then England captain Andrew Strauss during the Test series.

He missed out on England's failed World Twenty20 title defence in Sri Lanka and the upcoming England tour of India, as well as a central contract for the new season. But Flower said he was

optimistic that an agreement had finally been reached. "The situation is ongoing.

I think it's nearing an end now -- hopefully in a positive way," he told British media. "There's been a lot of

formal communication between the ECB [England and Wales Cricket Board] and Kevin, and there will be a press conference I would imagine in the next 36 hours which will enlighten you a little further."

Monday's defeat to the hosts Sri Lanka in the Super Eights saw England crash out of the World Twenty 20. Asked whether Pietersen

had been missed, Flower said: "Of course, but he wasn't available for this tournament when we selected the side."

Samit stays with Notts

AFP, Nottingham

England all-rounder Samit Patel has signed a new threeyear deal with Nottinghamshire, the county announced Tuesday.

Patel, a regular in England's limited-overs teams, top-scored with 67 on Monday as England were knocked out of the World Twenty20 with a defeat to hosts Sri Lanka.

The 27-year-old made his Test debut earlier this year in Sri Lanka but is not a firm fixture in the Test side, meaning he remains a valuable asset in Notts' domestic bids for silverware.

"We were very keen to secure Samit's services because his batting ability and bowling option gives our side balance," said Mike Newell, Nottinghamshire's director of cricket.

Sponsors

ROM PAGE 16

beginning of the league, several important components remain uncertain. The fixtures for instance haven't yet been confirmed. Players in many divisions have either not started practising or are depending upon insufficient facilities for their training.

The changes made by the BCB for this year's NCL was an attempt to base the league on more professional grounds.

SL play FROM PAGE 16

captained the game.

"I will explain," Jayawardene was quoted in The Island as saying. "The intentions were not bad. Obviously I had a warning after the last match. If I repeated the offence I miss the match. Kumar [Sanga-kkara] as the official captain went to the toss. It's tough to bowl 20 overs in one hour 20 minutes. We try our best, but penalties are very harsh. We don't want to miss out on big games and we did it with the

right intentions. "Angelo [Mathews] is the vice-captain and in that Pakistan game at Hambantota he was also found guilty of maintaining a slow over rate. If he gets nailed he misses a game as well. Don't know what will happen tomorrow, I might get a phone call from the ICC. The move was suggested by our Manger Charith Senanayake and all credit to him."

two sixes during his 46-ball 55. Kamran Akmal contrib-Earlier, Pakistan also took

uted 32 and their knocks helped give their something to bowl at, which proved too much for Australia.



Youthful Feni aim for impact

Football

SPORTS REPORTER

Feni Soccer Club once again kept faith with youth for the upcoming Bangladesh Premier League as they signed up 17 players including a Liberian booter yesterday at the Bangladesh Football Federation. Unherald Feni Soccer had wowed the

Dhaka-based clubs in their first appearance in the professional football league after claiming fourth place in the 13-team league ahead of traditional powerhouses like Muktijoddha Sangsad and Brothers Union.

But the following seasons proved much tougher, as Feni struggled to match their high point of the debut season. Two ninth place finishes were compounded last season, when the club nearly found themselves relegated but finished just outside the two bottom spots.

"Like in the previous seasons, we have formed a youthful squad but this time our squad is better than the squad last season," said Feni Soccer joint secretary Shakhwat Hossain Bhuiyan Shaheen. "Last season we suffered problem in midfield and striking zone but we have strengthened those departments through roping in some good players and hope they will produce better results than last season."

Feni Soccer retained the services of last season's six players and signed up Rony Islam of Team BJMC, Shimul and Zahid from Rahmatganj MFS, Towhid from Brothers Union, goalkeeper Al Amin from Sheikh Russel KC, Ridon and Arafat Rony from Farashganj and Sajib and Krishna Kumar from BKSP.

After being appointed head coach, Mahmudul Haque Liton had three days training with the boys and believes the better results would depend on the good collection of the foreign players.

"I can't say anything about the squad at the moment because I have just been appointed a couple of days ago, but it is clear that better result will depend on the collection of foreign players," said Liton over the phone.

Joint secretary Shaheen informed that they were trying to rope in foreign players from Cameroon and Nigerian and Liberian Marcos Max has already been signed up.

We're not good enough'

AFP, Pallekele



England captain Stuart Broad has admitted his inexperienced team was "not good enough" after the defending champions crashed out of the World Twenty 20.

England's 19-run defeat

against Sri Lanka in Pallekele on Monday was their second loss in three Super Eights games and paved the way for the hosts and the West Indies to advance to the semifinals from group one.

"You can look at the missed opportunities. But I think throughout the whole tournament, we've not quite been good enough," Broad said on Monday night as his team prepared for the long journey home.

England, who won the 2010 title in the Caribbean under Paul Collingwood, beat only New Zealand in the Super Eights but could have made the semifinals had they defeated Sri Lanka.

Sling-arm fast bowler Lasith Malinga dashed the champions' hopes with three wickets in his first over that reduced England to 18-3 chasing Sri Lanka's 169-6.

Broad's men ended on 150-9 following a half-century from Samit Patel and his 51-run stand for the eighth wicket with Graeme Swann, who swung his bat to hit 34 off 20 balls with four boundaries and a six.

Patel finished with a glorious 67 off 48 balls, but the effort came too late to save England from an early exit.

"It was very disappointing to have gone out, because I believe we do have the firepower in that changing room to go far," said Broad. "It was frustratingly close.'

The man who could have changed England's fortunes was star batsman Kevin Pietersen, the man of the tournament in 2010 who was confined to the TV studio in Colombo after being axed for disciplinary reasons.

Pietersen was cast into international exile after sending text messages to South African players that contained criticism of then England skipper Andrew Strauss during the recent Test series.

Broad refused to dwell on Pietersen's absence, but admitted his side lacked experi-

ence to match the firepower of the other teams. "What you get with young guys is some days of absolute brilliance, and other days a bit of averageness," he said. "I think, as a team, we've

probably shown that. "It has been a learning experience for us. Obviously, we did not have enough players

firing at the same time. "The talent is certainly there. You see on the domestic scene that these are the guys

who are performing week in and week out. "But it's a learning experience when you come into the international scene. "We've got guys here who have not played a lot of international cricket. But as long as we learn from it, we will develop."

Australia crushed

Jamshed to share a 79-run

third-wicket stand to revive

Pakistan's hopes and some

late hitting from Abdul

Razzak, who was selected in

place of Yasir Arafat, gave

well except Pat Cummins who

conceded 42 for one wicket in

four overs while left-arm spin-

ner Brad Hogg gave away 29

Jamshed, who was

dropped by Maxwell in the

second over at slip, ham-

mered four boundaries and

runs in three overs.

All the Australians bowled

Pakistan a fighting total.

FROM PAGE 16

was how Pakistan would manage to neutralise Shane Watson, who is the highest run-getter and wicket-taker in the tournament so far. Leftarm spinner Raza Hasan got the big fish early, trapping the right-hander in front to give Pakistan the momentum in the match and then captain Mohammad Hafeez trapped Warner quickly to test the Australian middle-order for the first time in the tournament.

Man-of-the-match Raza Hasan took one more wicket, that of Glenn Maxwell, to finish with staggering figures of 2-14 in four overs.

time to get off the blocks and lost both openers quickly. But Kamran Akmal joined Nasir

Briton stole FROM PAGE 16 appear for sentencing on

October 16 and remanded him on bail of one million rupees (7,700 dollars).

Under Sri Lankan law theft carries a maximum sentence of three years in prison and a fine.

Police told the court Tuesday that the stolen tickets had a face value of 10,920 rupees (around 85 dollars), but most of them could not have been used as they had not yet been validated.

It was the first case of ticket theft for the Twenty20 tournament which opened on September 18 and continues until October 7. Last month, police raided a

factory turning out counterfeit International Cricket Council World Twenty20 T-shirts and seized stocks of fake merchandise after the ICC complained about trademark infringements.

Fall of wkts: 1-23, 2-30, 3-36, 4-68, 5-112, 6-152. O M R W Bowler

Total: (For 6 wkts in 20 overs) 152

IND-SA SCOREBOARD

Sehwag b Peterson

Yuvraj b M Morkel

Extras: (lb-10, nb-1)

Dhoni not out

Kohli c De Villiers b Kallis

Sharma Ibw b Peterson

R B 4 6

17 14 1 1

25 27 2 0

21 15 1 2

45 34 5 0

23 13 3 0

13 13 2 0

12 1 0

6 0 0

4 1 26 0 Steyn M Morkel 0 28 2 0 24 1 4 0 25 2 Peterson 0 30 0 Botha 0 3 0 Du Plessis 0 6 0 SOUTH AFRICA R B 4 6 Amla c Sehwag b Zaheer Kallis c Sharma b Pathan 8 1 0

65 38 6 2 Du Plessis c Raina b Yuvraj Duminy c Gambhir b Balaji 16 23 0 0 Behardien c Raina b Zaheer 13 12 1 0 Peterson b Zaheer 10 1 0 6 0 A Morkel b Balaji Botha c Raina b Ashwin 5 0 1 0 0 0 Steyn not out

De Villiers b Yuvraj

M Morkel b Balaji 6 3 0 1 Extras: (lb-3, nb-1) Total: (All out in 19.5 overs) 151 Fall of wickets: 1-0, 2-16, 3-46, 4-95, 5-107, 6-127, 7-127, 8-138, 9-145. O M R W

Bowler 4 0 22 3 Zaheer Pathan 0 26 0 23 2 Yuvraj 0 13 0 Sharma 4 0 27 1 Ashwin 3.5 0 37 3

Result: India won by 1 run.

Pak spinner faces ban

CRICINFO, London

Abdur Rehman, the Pakistan left-arm spinner, is facing a ban after failing a drugs test during his stint with Somerset in the English domestic season. It is believed the drugs were recreational and not performance enhancing.

Reports first emerged in the Pakistan media and ESPNcricinfo understands that a formal announcement is due to be made within the next day.

36 Total

37 Pair

38 Delusory

45 "M*A*S*H"

trans-

action

47 Bear hair

48 Property

claim

city

49 Oklahoma

50 To and —

warrior

princess

53 "Absolute- 11 Drive the

Solution time: 27 mins.

C H O W E T A L U B E
A M S G R I S L Y

EACHLOOTREY

GRISTSMPH

AMBERGRIS

OXBOWSEE

51 Missing

52 TV's

DOWN

1 Stereo

setup

star

46 Bank

happiness

ACROSS

1 Dinner

Dobbin

portico

for

4 Anger

8 Old

12 Anger

13 Stench

14 Seafood

15 Healthy

17 Cere-

18 1939

21 Last

22 Hurry

26 Lair

16 Withered

mony

Shearer

Gable

movie

(Abbr.)

along

23 Succulent

27 Shrill bark

feeling

31 Mongrel

32 Points of

tration

down

34 Cranberry

territory

offering

33 Spell-

35 GPS

concen-

30 Pruritic

selection

Chippets

SPORTS REPORTER

Dhaka Wanderers Club emerged champions in the Walton Women's Kabaddi League with an entertaining 11-9 win over Jatrabari Krira Chakra at the Kabaddi Stadium vesterday.

Janata Jurain Club finished third with a 31-18 win over Azad SC in the place-deciding match held before the final match.

Fatema Akter Shila of losing Jatrabari KC was named the woman of the final while Fatema Akhter Poly was adjudged the best player of the league.

Women's handball

Eden Women's College made a flying start in the 15th Delta Life Women's College/University Handball Tournament with a convincing 15-0 win over Ahmed Bawani School & College on the opening day at the Shaheed M Mansur Ali National Handball Stadium vesterday.

Eden College dominated the first half 7-0.

In the day's other match, Shiddeshwari Girl's College recorded a tense 5-4 win over Central Women's College after they were locked 3-3 at the first-half play.

Women's football final

Defending champions Bangladesh Ansar & VDP will try to defend their title of the KFC Women's Super League when they face Jessore in the final at the Bangabandhu National Stadium today.

State-owned Bangladesh Television will telecast the final live from the venue at 3:45pm while Information Minister Hasanul Haque Inu will be present as chief guest. The champions will be awarded Tk 50,000 while the runners-up will receive Tk 30,000.

Div II chess

FROM PAGE 16

West Indian side, which

contains only a couple of

players with international

experience and boasts an

average age of around 23,

adjusted to the sub-

continental conditions and

went on to defeat a senior

Bangladesh outfit should,

without any doubt, ring the

alarm bells in the Bangla-

team's performance was

below-par, national chief

selector Akram Khan,

stated that the players in

the team have the potential

extraordinary performance

by any player. Yes, there

were a few good individual

performances, but I

expected many others to do

fighting to regain his spot in

the national team, was one

such player who performed

consistently both with bat

and the ball in the series

and Akram took notice of

"Yes, he [Naeem] has

20 Jeremy of

23 Triangular

purpose

truck

25 Lemieux

milieu

26 Shoveled

person

mance

29 Slapstick

31 Intricate

32 Comesti-

bles

34 Clear the

tables

35 Kigali's

land

36 Point of

view

37 Teach by

38 Plummet

39 A little of

every-

thing

40 Rhyming

tributes

41 Top-notch

42 Uncertain

43 Certain

44 Cupid's

alias

repetition

missile

27 Second

28 Perfor-

sail

24 Multi-

the NBA

Naeem, who has been

well," said Akram.

that.

2 Saharan

3 Bigfoot's

cousin

much

5 That is

(Lat.)

6 Han Solo

portrayer

7 Refriger-

section

ator

8 Tempo-

rary

money

math

10 Solemn

car,

19 "That

V E R D I G R I S E X E R T

9 Advanced

promise

getaway

maybe

hurts!"

AGATE

4 Pretty

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

"There wasn't any

to perform much better.

Admitting that the A

desh Cricket Board.

Sultana Kamal Smriti Pathagar took the solo lead in the Philosophia 2nd Division Chess League at the end of the sixth round matches at the Bangladesh Chess Federation hall room yesterday. They secured 11 match points. Fire Service & Civil Defence SC and Debdas Smriti

Sangsad shared the second position with nine match points each while Abdul Hamid Smriti Sangsad was in

Consolation for BD A

well. But there are some

criteria for selection. The

players' performances in

the upcoming National

Cricket League will be a

face off in two twenty20

games that are scheduled

to take place on Thursday

and Friday. The following

are the players selected to

play in the two-match

WEST INDIES HP: 54 all out

in 18 overs (Lesporis 15,

Cariah 11; Naeem 2-5,

BANGLADESH A: 55 for 1 in

8.4 overs: (Anamul 23

Mominul 25; Permaul 1-18)

Result: Bangladesh A won

Imrul Kayes, Anamul

Haque, Soumya Sarker,

Ziaur Rahman, Shabbir

Rahman, Abul Hasan,

Farhad Reza, Arafat Sunny,

Namzul Hossain Apu,

Shamsur Rahman, Naeem

Islam, Marshal Ayub

SCORES IN BRIEF

series:

Enamul 2-9)

by nine wickets.

T20 SQUAD

Muktar Ali.

The teams will now

major factor," he added.

Sri Lanka Cricket sources

present when the brawl

been consistent thus far. He had a good tour in India as

AFP, Leeds

England international bowler Liam Plunkett has crossed the county boundary to join promoted Yorkshire from Durham, his new

signed a three-year deal at the Leeds-based side ahead of their return to the County Championship Division

Tests, 21 One-Day Internationals -- the last of which came in February against Australia -- and one

Headingley with former Durham head coach Martyn Moxon, who is now Yorkshire's director of cricket.

Huge response FROM PAGE 16

positive one.

tive is not enough. The Women's Wing in the BCB should ensure that the organisation sticks to its plan of developing the young hopefuls who registered yesterday.

20 19 27 28 29 31 32 35 38 39 40 42 43 44 46

CRYPTOQUIP

52

EGUE FNQX OUFJBM JBZE

SBKKWVFL VF NEGBM ZBNZWB'Q

UAAUVMQ, QN V QUVK "SVFK

WNUF ORQVFBQQ!" XNRM

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WINDOW SIGN FOR A

FOREST MARKET AT WHICH MANY MALE DEER BUY SUPPLIES: "THE BUCK SHOPS HERE." Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Z equals P

cricketers in their hotel at the World Twenty20 tournament, officials said Tuesday. The two fans were taken into custody on Monday night after the bust-up at the luxury Earl's Regency Hotel in the central hill resort of

2 English fans

Sri Lankan police arrested two

England fans who were

involved in a brawl after heck-

ling New Zealand's defeated

nabbed

AFP, Colombo

Kandy where the New Zealand players were also staying, a local police official said. "The team was in the hotel lobby when some British fans heckled them and it was turning into a nasty scene," the official who declined to

called the local police in." He said charges were not pressed and the two men were freed early Tuesday.

be named told AFP. "That is

when their bodyguards

An official who witnessed the brawl but asked not to be named said he saw one member of the security team assigned to protect the Black Caps come to blows with several England fans. The incident came hours

after New Zealand's defeat to the West Indies in the Super Eights match in nearby Pallekele. The holders England were then beaten by Sri Lanka at the same venue later that evening.

confirmed that New Zealand players as well as some of their team officials were broke out.

Plunkett joins **Yorkshire**

club announced Tuesday. The 27-year-old has

One next season. Plunkett has played nine

Twenty20 for England. He will be reunited at

first of its kind, is no doubt a

However, a single initia-