



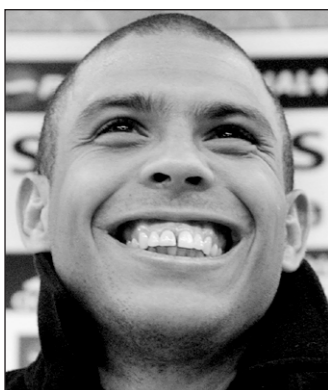
Did U Know?

The longest ski jump ever officially recorded in the finals of a World Cup event is 704 feet. Martin Schmitt of Germany had that huge hop in Slovenia in 1999. His first jump had been measured at 718 feet, but he fell in the end and missed that feat.



What to Watch

ESPN
Western Union World Football Taped Version at 10:30 am
English Premier Football League Man United vs Sunderland Repeat at 11:30 am
&
Newcastle United vs Liverpool Repeat at 3:30 pm
ATP Tour World Series
Tata Open, Quarterfinals
Live at 5:30 pm
Sportscentre Hindi
Sport News
Live at 9:30 pm
STAR Sports
Australia vs England Fifth Test, Day Two
Live at 5:57 am
South Africa vs Pakistan Second Test, Day Two
Live at 2:25 pm
Sportsline Tonight
Sport News
Live at 9:30 pm



Ronaldo
Brazilian superstar
"It's a fantastic feeling to be a Brazilian tonight. I worked for two and a half years to be here."
After Brazil won the World Cup last year.

Star WHIZZ KID COMPETITION 18
Tick the correct answers, Post to The Daily Star
Competition closes at 8 pm Jan 10, 2003 and draw shortly afterwards

- Who lifted Div I chess title?
Titus Club Biman Anars
- Who won Reuters' sportswoman of 2002 award?
Hingis Serena Jones
- Who won the man-of-the-match award in the second and final Test between Bangladesh and West Indies?
Jacobs Kapali Mashud
- Who won 2002 FIFA World Player of the Year award?
Owen Ronaldo Carlos
- Who clinched World Squash Open title?
Name:
Class: Roll No.
School Address:
Phone: (If any)

BCB names dev squad

UNB, Dhaka
An 18-member development squad of the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) was announced yesterday for the forthcoming Dhaka League competition. A three-member junior selection committee of BCB led by former national cricketer Jahangir Shah



CRICKET IN ARMY CAMP! Bangladesh national cricket team captain Khaled Mashud (R) discusses something with Habibur Bashar and Mohammad Rafique at the Bangabandhu National Stadium (BNS) yesterday with some army vehicles parked in the background. The World Cup-bound cricketers, who are scheduled to train at the arena until their departure for South Africa, were reportedly denied entry into the BNS by the military personnel when they came for practice in the morning. They, however, were allowed to get inside about half an hour later following intervention of the high authorities. The army are rehearsing for the inauguration ceremony of the South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) Championship which kicks off at the BNS on January 10.

Streaks think alike



AFP, London

Zimbabwe cricket captain Heath Streak received the thumbs up from his father Dennis on Thursday over his public support for the country to keep the six matches it is hosting in next month's World Cup.

While Pakistan have said they will play their match in Zimbabwe both Australia and England have hinted strongly they could pull out because of the human rights abuses perpetrated by President Robert Mugabe and his democratically-elected government.

However Dennis Streak, who was imprisoned for three days last year by Mugabe's police force and had three quarters of his farm seized under the government Land Laws, said his son had been right to insist Zimbabwe kept the matches.

"I don't believe politics should play any role in sport," the 72-year-old Streak senior told the Times.

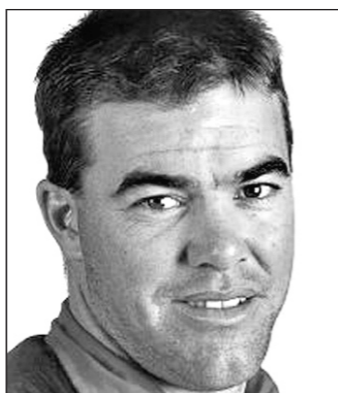
"I've been surprised by the recriminations that have followed

Heath. "Quite often they have come from people who didn't realise we live on a farm.

"He's now being targeted by a group called Zim-Activism, the kind of people who think the only way to bring down the government is to oppose everything.

"Heath likes to concentrate on cricket matters but as a captain he has a role to play and he believes he is duty bound to talk about these things."

Streak senior said he had bitter experience of how politics could



HEATH STREAK

effect one's sporting career having been part of the then Rhodesia side which also included present England coach Duncan Fletcher.

"I lost out back in the Rhodesia days because of sanctions.

"So I know what it is like to be isolated from international sport.

"We didn't have Test status then but maybe we'd have got it earlier if that hadn't been the case."

Heath Streak, who became the first Zimbabwean to play in the English County Championship when he joined Hampshire in the early 90s, had told the BBC on Thursday as far as he was concerned the matches should go ahead.

"I think things should go ahead. "I believe the security of the teams coming here is perfect and we are looking forward to hosting the matches."

England's cricket authorities - headed by David Graveney who led a rebel tour to South Africa when sports contacts were forbidden because of the apartheid regime but who says they shouldn't play in Zimbabwe - are to hold talks with the British Government next week to discuss the matter.

Any team withdrawing from a match risks forfeiting the points.

SA's record opening



AFP, Cape Town

Graeme Smith and Herschelle Gibbs both hit centuries as they shared a record opening partnership on the first day of the second and final Test against Pakistan at Newlands here Thursday.

South Africa were 241 for no wicket at tea as the duo set a record for any wicket in Tests between South Africa and Pakistan.

They also stood just 19 short of South Africa's all-time first wicket record, set by Bruce Mitchell and Jack Siedle against England at the same ground in 1930-31.

The left-handed Smith made an emphatic riposte to the national selectors who left him out of South Africa's World Cup squad by making 100 not out, while Gibbs was unbeaten on 130.

Smith and Gibbs punished a lacklustre Pakistan bowling attack, scoring at almost five runs an over as Pakistan bowled only 50 overs in the four hours before lunch.

Both batsmen survived chances. Gibbs was dropped by Yousef Youhana at backward point off Mohammad Sami when he had 29.

He was out to an almost identical shot, slicing a forcing shot off the back foot, when he was dismissed by Pakistan captain Waqar Younis for 11 in the first Test in Durban.

Gibbs gave another chance on 99 when a leaping Saleem Elahi at midwicket could not hold a fierce pull off Mohammad Zahid.

Gibbs then survived a close leg before wicket appeal before going to his eighth Test hundred off 125 balls with 14 fours and two sixes.

Smith escaped shortly before lunch when, with his score on 54, he edged a drive against off-spinner Saqlain Mushtaq and Younis Khan was unable to hold a sharp catch at slip.

Smith reached his second Test century in the last over before tea when he turned part-time bowler Younis Khan to leg for two runs.

knee in his delivery stride and had to be helped from the field without sending down a ball.

Gibbs and Smith, who both play their provincial cricket at Newlands, home of Western Province, dominated the bowling on an easy-paced pitch after skipper Shaun Pollock won the toss and decided to bat on a hot, sunny day.

South Africa fielded an unchanged team after winning the first Test in Durban by ten wickets last Sunday.



South Africa opener Graeme Smith raises his bat after reaching his half-century on the first day of the second Test against Pakistan in Cape Town yesterday.

Khulna dismantle Barisal



SPORTS REPORTER

Khulna moved into second position in the Ispahani Mirzapore Tea Fourth National Cricket League with a four-wicket win over neighbours Barisal at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium.

On the final day, Khulna, needing 168 runs in their second innings, took 49 overs to reach the target.

Opener Sajjadul, who scored 75 in the first innings, followed it up with highest 40. It contained nine boundaries. Besides, left-hander Manzarul Islam chipped in with an unbeaten 30.

In fact, it was good four-day game for the lower-order Manzarul, whose 59 runs in the first innings and match haul of four wickets earned him the man-of-the-match award.

Earlier, Barisal resuming the day on 234-5, were eventually dismissed for 318 in their second innings.

Middle-order Towhid Hossain, who was undefeated on 110, added another six runs to his account before being bowled by right-arm seamer Al-Amin.

Ali Arman was the other notable run getter with a patient 52. Khulna's second victory in four matches increased their tally to ten points in the six-team league. Chittagong lead the table with 12

points. On the other hand, Barisal tasted their fourth straight defeat in as many appearances.

CTG ALL AT SEA

Meanwhile, at the Fatullah Stadium, Rajshahi avenged their four-day defeat with an easy six-wicket win over Chittagong in their one-day clash.

Put in to bat, the port city continued to struggle in the abridged version as they were shot out this time for 83 in 34.5 overs. Last week they managed a record low 30 against Sylhet.

Former national captain Akram Khan scored highest 15 followed by opener Nazimuddin and one-down Azam Iqbal who added 14 and 11 runs in the woeful total.

Left-arm seamer Shafaq Al-Jabir was the wrecker-in-chief for Rajshahi taking four wickets for 27 runs while Mushfiqur Rahman captured three wickets for 18 runs.

On the other hand Rajshahi raced home in 25.3 overs. Nuruzzaman top-scored with 44 while man-of-the-match Mushfiq was unbeaten on 16.

It was the second win for Rajshahi in four matches while Chittagong suffered their third defeat in four outings.

SCOREBOARD

Scorecard on the final day of the Ispahani Mirzapore Tea Fourth National Cricket League match between Khulna and Barisal at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium yesterday:

BARISAL: First innings 241 all out in 96.5 overs (Anis 52, Imran 29, Towhid 45; Manjarul 3/67, Jamaluddin 2/29, Al-Amin 2/34)

KHULNA: First innings 392 for 8 in 100 overs (Raju 84, Sajjadul 75, Manzarul 59, Hasanuzzaman 55, Nadif 3-91, Pijush 2-71)

BARISAL: Second innings (overnight 234 for 5 in 85 overs) Imran c Sajjadul b Al-Amin 11

Ranim c Sajjadul b Russel 4
Shahin c Huzzaman b Al-Amin 0
Nahidul c Huzzaman b Al-Amin 25

Kafic Selim b Manjarul 66
Towhid batting b Al-Amin 116
Arman not out 51
Nadif b Al-Amin 13

Pijush b Razzak 4
Debabrata b w b Razzak 3
Anisur b Russel 5
Extras: (b-10, lb-7, w-3) 20
Total: (All out in 114 overs) 318

Fall of wickets: 1-8, 2-9, 3-16, 4-149, 5-213, 6-241, 7-271, 8-309, 9-316.

Bowler O M R W
Al-Amin 29 9 78 5
Russel 23 8 47 2
Manjarul 21 5 53 1
Jamaluddin 19 30 58 0
Razzak 22 3 65 2

KHULNA: Second innings
Salim c sub b Anisur 0
Sajjadul c sub b Anisur 40
Raju lbw b Nadif 8
Salauddin c Nadif b Anisur 7
Hasanuzzaman lbw b Nadif 29

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BD lift Jigme Dorji trophy

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh clinched the Jigme Dorji Wangchuk Memorial football trophy beating hosts Bhutan 1-0 in Phuentsholing yesterday.

Forward Rokonuzzaman Kanchan scored the all important goal 42 minutes into the match, and with that Bangladesh ended their five-match campaign in Bhutan with all-win record.

Bangladesh took part in the Bhutan invitational tourney as part of their buildup to the third South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) Championship that begins in the capital from January 10.

The team is expected to reach Dhaka today.

Baishakhi in last four

UNB, Dhaka

Sifat Nurat Baishakhi reached the semifinals of the girl's singles in the BKSP International Junior Tennis Championship at the BKSP tennis complex yesterday.

In the day's quarterfinal of the ITF World Ranking Group-5 competition, Baishakhi beat Chen Yi Chang of Taipei 6-1, 6-0.

On the other hand, Bangladesh's Amol Roy defeated Indian Punna Bikash 6-2, 6-4 to reach the last eight in the boy's event.

Tribal football Rangamati champs

SPORTS REPORTER

Rangamati became the maiden Tribal Football champions when they handed Mymensingh a 4-1 tie-break defeat at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium yesterday.

The match was locked in 0-0 during the regulation time. Kingshuk Chakma, Michael Marma, Atish Dewan and Uthai scored for Rangamati from the spot-kick while Dipankar found the net for Mymensingh.

Eleven tribal teams from across the country took part in the tournament organised by the Bangladesh Football Federation.

Mosaddak Ali, political advisor to the prime minister and president of Mohammedan Sporting Club, witnessed the final as chief guest and distributed prizes among the winners.

BFF president SA Sultan and other senior BFF officials were also present on the occasion.



Players and officials of the victorious Rangamati team, who won the Tribal Football Championship, take a photograph with guests after the presentation ceremony at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday.

Prime Bank chess Zia back in front

SPORTS REPORTER

Grand Master Ziaur Rahman and Khandker Aminul Islam were jointly sharing the lead in the Prime Bank International Rating Chess Tournament with six points at the end of the seventh round.

Zia defeated Minhazuddin Ahmed and Aminul drew with Mehdi Hasan Parag in this round at the NSC chess room yesterday. In the sixth round Zia suffered a surprise defeat and slipped to the second place.

Parag and Saifuddin Ahmed Lovelu occupied the second spot, with each having collected 5.5 points.

Fide Master Taibur Rahman Sumon, Arman Monir, Monir Hossain, IWM Rani Hamid and Noor-e-Alam were in the crowded third place with a collection of five points each.

The eighth round begins at the same venue today at 3:30 pm. Meanwhile, the qualifiers of the 24th National Women's Chess Championship will start from January 14.

Interested women and girls have been asked to complete their entry formalities by January 12.

The 23rd National Sub-junior Chess Championship begins at the NSC chess room this morning.

Over hundred boys and 16 girls will take part in the nine-round meet.

Ctg football

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Customs Excise & Vat club (Land Customs) conceded a lone goal defeat at the hand of Kallol Sangha in the CJKS Elite Paint senior division football league here at the MA Aziz stadium yesterday.

The young side of Kallol Sangha ruled over their opponents but could not get more than one goal because of poor marksmanship. Their forwards muffed up a few sure chances in both halves.

Striker Anis notched the winning goal in the 13th minute of the match. Today's match: Kwality Sports club vs Madarbari Udoyon Sangha (3.30pm).

England's first good day



AFP, Sydney

Mark Butcher cashed in on four let-offs to score his third century against Australia and lift English hopes of avoiding a dreaded Ashes series whitewash in the final Test at the Sydney Cricket Ground on Thursday.

Butcher, dropped twice and survivor of two vociferous appeals, bounced back from an underachieving series to claim his sixth Test hundred in his 50th Test for England to savour one of their best days on tour before 44,000, the biggest opening day SCG crowd for 27 years.

Supported by a 166-run three-wicket stand with skipper Nasser Hussain (75), Butcher provided the tourists with a slow-scoring but nonetheless steady start to the opening day of the fifth Test.

Butcher, whose 173 won England the fourth Headingley Test in the 2001 Ashes series, was finally out four overs before stumps when he dragged a Brett Lee thunderbolt on to his stumps for 124.

Butcher batted for 337 minutes, faced 276 balls and hit 19 boundaries.

At stumps, England had crawled to 264 for five with Crawley on six and Alec Stewart, suffering from chicken pox, ending the day with successive fours to be 20 not out. It will be a crucial partnership for England on Friday if they are to push on towards 400.

Australia were shooting for only the second Ashes clean sweep in history, but doing it without their bowling titans, Glenn McGrath (422 wickets) and Shane Warne (491), and for long periods they were up against it.

But the cause of Steve Waugh's team was not aided by woeful catching. Butcher looked out plumb lbw off his first ball from Lee and was dropped in a hard chance on 13 by Damien Martyn in the gully off Andy Bichel and on 43 by Adam Gilchrist off Jason Gillespie not long after lunch.

Gilchrist got his left glove to the

chance but the ball bobbed out to the groans from the home crowd.

Nearing his century on 95, Butcher appeared to have another escape when television replays showed that he bottom-edged a sweep on to his pads off leg-spinner Stuart MacGill for Matthew Hayden to take a close-in catch.

But South African umpire Dave Orchard turned down a mass appeal and Butcher went on to raise three-figures in 271 minutes off 221 balls.

Hussain was another to take advantage of a dropped catch, on six when MacGill fumbled an easy-looking two-handed caught-and-bowled chance before lunch, but he was caught off his gloves giving Gillespie his first wicket. It was his third half-century of the series and 26th overall.

The pro-Steve Waugh home crowd gave the Australian skipper a mighty ovation when he came on late in the day and snared the wicket of Robert Key for three.

Waugh, who could be playing in his 156th and last Test, trapped Key lbw inside the final hour to have England at 210 for four in the 76th over.

England's openers Michael Vaughan and Marcus Trescothick faced the music after Hussain won his fourth toss of the series.

Lee, Australia's most impressive bowler, thundered down a sensational five-over opening spell full of ferocity and magnificent out-swingers and troubled Vaughan in his opening maiden over before getting him to faint edge to wicketkeeper Gilchrist off the first ball of his second.

Vaughan, the leading Test scorer in 2002 with 1,481 runs, began the new year with a duck.

Trescothick went for 19 in the over after first hour drinks when he snicked Bichel and Gilchrist dived across in front of first-slipper Martin Love to pluck the catch in his outstretched left glove.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at stumps on the opening day of the fifth and final Ashes Test between Australia and England at the Sydney Cricket Ground yesterday:

ENGLAND: First innings
Trescothick c Gilchrist b Bichel 19
Vaughan c Gilchrist b Lee 0
Butcher b Lee 124
Hussain c Gilchrist b Gillespie 75
Key lbw b Waugh 3
Crawley not out 6
Stewart not out 20

Extras: (b-6, lb-3, nb-8) 17
Total: (For 5 wkts in 90 overs) 264
Fall of wickets: 1-4, 2-32, 3-198, 4-210, 5-240

To bat: Dawson, Caddick, Hoggard, Harmison

Bowler O M R W
Gillespie 21 7 48 1
Lee 20 5 66 2
Bichel 14 3 58 1
MacGill 31 5 81 0
Waugh 4 3 2 1

AUSTRALIA: J Langer, M Hayden, R Ponting, D Martyn, S Waugh, M Love, A Gilchrist, B Lee, A Bichel, J Gillespie, S MacGill.

Umpires: Dave Orchard and Russell Tiffin.

Int'l Jr Tennis Group 3 matches in Rajshahi

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

The Group 3 matches of the International Junior (under 18) Tennis Championship 2003 starts at the Rajshahi Tennis Complex (RTC) here from January 4.

"All preparations to hold the ITF (International Tennis Federation) tournament in Rajshahi have been completed," said Mustak Ahmed, the tournament director, at a press conference held at the RTC compound yesterday.

At least 105 players, coaches and managers including 61 boys and 32 girls from 10 countries will take part in the tournament in a bid to better their international rankings. The participating countries are England, Uzbekistan, Ukraine, China, Taipei, South Korea, India, Maldives, Japan and Bangladesh.

Twenty-four ITF point holders and four Bangladesh wild card entrants will directly take part in the main draw. Others will have to pass

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