



Did U Know?

In 1997, at an age of 16 years, Martina Hingis of Switzerland became the youngest sports woman to earn \$1 million. When she won her quarterfinal at the 1998 Italian Open, she became the youngest tennis player to earn \$6 million at the age of 17 years, seven months and eight days.



What to WATCH

BTV
SAFF Championship
Pakistan v Sri Lanka
Live at 3.45 pm
Afghanistan v India
Live at 5.45 pm

ESPN
New Zealand vs India
Sixth ODI
Repeat at 11:30 am
English Premier Football
League
Tottenham Hotspur vs Everton
Live at 7:55 pm
&
Birmingham City vs Arsenal
Live at 10:00 pm

STAR Sports
Harsha Online
Cricket Talk Show
Repeat at 3:00 pm
Cricket Programming
Super Selector
Repeat at 4:00 pm
Primera Liga
Malaga vs Barcelona



John Howard
(Australian Prime Minister)
"The game was good to him, but he really contributed heavily to our sport and to his country which I'll always remember."
About Pat Rafter.



Tick the correct answers, post to The Daily Star

Competition closes at 8 pm Jan 24, 2003 and draw

1. How many teams will play in next month's Cricket World Cup?	16	12	14
2. Who won the Hopman Cup title?	Australia	Russia	America
3. How many Test centuries has Steve Waugh scored?	34	31	29
4. Who became Tribal football champions?	KChari	M y m e n s i n g h	Rangamati
5. Who won the man-of-the-match award in the fifth and final Ashes?			
Name			
Class			
School Address			
Phone: (If any)			

Ctg soccer

OUR CORRESPONDENT
Brothers Union and Muktijoddha Sangsad Krira Chakra won their matches of the CJKS Elite Paint Senior Division Football League at the MA Aziz Stadium in Chittagong here yesterday.
Brothers beat Kwalit Sports 2-1. Walid Khan netted two goals for the winners while Shahin of Kwalit reduced the margin.
In the other match, Muktijoddha recorded a 4-3 win over Kollol Sangha in the tiebreaker after the normal time ended 1-1.



HATTRICK HERO: Maldives' Ali Shiham (2nd from L) is toast of his teammates after he struck for the third time during their SAFF Championship fixture against Bhutan at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Debutants demolished



SPORTS REPORTER

Maldives welcomed Bhutan in international football with a 6-0 drubbing at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.
Forward Ali Shiham notched the first hat-trick of the third SAFF Championship as Maldives mauled the debutants in the Group A opener of the eight-nation meet.
Maldives took the lead in the very second minute from a counter attack with Nizam finding the net from a Shiham pass. Luffy doubled the margin in the eleventh minute.
Shiham then got into the demolition act scoring twice in successive minutes as Maldives went to take

the lemon break with 4-0. The lanky striker first headed home a left side cross from Shah Ismail in the 24th minute and then netted his second in the next minute after being brilliantly fed by playmaker Ali Umar.
There was no respite for Bhutan, playing their maiden international match after getting the FIFA membership in 2000, as Maldives showed no sign of slowing down.
Shiham completed his treble in the 67th minute with a left-foot placing shot from a Shah Ismail pass. Umar drove the last nail in Bhutan's coffin after receiving an accurate through from Nizam in the 80th minute.
Ranked lowest (199) in the tournament, Bhutan were no match for the well-organised Maldives (ranked 152), who dominated the

entire proceedings right from the word go.
Maldives take on hosts Bangladesh in their next match and Bhutan face neighbours Nepal in their next outing Monday.
Yellow cards: Umar (Maldives), Sonam Tobgye and Pema Chopel (Bhutan).
TEAMS
Maldives: Imran, Ibrahim, Fazeel, Nizam, Ismail, Umar (Thariqu), Assad, Ahmed Naaz, Jameel, Luffy (Hussain) and Shiham
Bhutan: Jigme Singhe, Passang, Irishna, Bhim Kumar, Dorji (Chengho), Sonam (Tenzin), Kinlay, Pema, Dinesh, Wangay and Chopel (Jamsho)
Referee: AD Silva (Sri Lanka)

CityCell Nat'l youth cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

Nilphamari and Rajshahi won their respective matches of the CityCell Digital 22nd National Youth Cricket tournament at different venues across the country yesterday.
At Comilla Stadium, Nilphamari defeated Barisal by four wickets.
Batting first, Barisal scored 116 runs all out in 37.2 overs.
In reply, Nilphamari reached the target of 117 runs for six wickets in 40.5 overs.
Rajshahi earned a comfortable 68-run victory over Faridpur at the Mymensingh Stadium.
Winning the toss Rajshahi batted first and made 208 runs for four wickets in 38 overs.
In reply, Faridpur were all out for 140 runs in 36 overs.

SCORES IN BRIEF
BARISAL: 116 runs all out in 37.2 overs (Rabbi 37 n o; Johnny 22/4).
NILPHAMARI: 117 for six in 40.5 overs (Imran 33, Shuvo 29 n o, Sonet 21/2, Mahin 22/2).
RAJSHAH: 208 runs for four in 38 overs (Sabbi 85, Biplob 53; Manzur 35/2).
FARIDPUR: 140 runs all out in 36 overs (Mahfuzur 32; Qumrul 16/3, Mahmudur 27/3).

School cricket

OUR CORRESPONDENT

Akbar Ali High School and Shahebulah High School won their respective matches in the Standard Chartered 21st National School Cricket Championship (Gaibandha region) at the Gaibandha Government Boys' High School ground yesterday.
In the first match, Akbar Ali High defeated NH Modern High by 77 runs.
Batting first, Akbar Ali made 180 runs all out in 25 overs.
In reply, NH Modern collected 103 runs losing all the wickets in 17 overs.
Shahebulah High School defeated Nizamuddin High School by 57 runs scoring 148 all out in 20 overs.
In reply, Nizamuddin High School managed 91 runs all out in 19 overs.

U-18 tennis

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Taipei clinched three out of four titles of the final round in the Group 3 tournament of International U-18 Tennis Championship at the Rajshahi Tennis Complex on Thursday.
They won boys' singles, girls' singles and boys' doubles while South Korea bagged the remaining trophy in the girls' doubles.
In the boys' singles, Tai Wie Leu beat compatriot Eue Chu Huan 6-3, 6-2 while in the girls' singles, Ting Wen Wang beat Mathura Ganguthri of India 6-0, 6-1.
In the boys' doubles, Tai Wie Leu and Chag Chiao Hao defeated Indian pair of Chat Winder and Rupesh Roy 6-1, 6-3. In the girls' doubles, Sio Shun Shi and Kim Hai Shun took care of fellow Koreans Wang Tin Wen and Chen E Fang 6-2, 6-2.

Sagar the kingpin

SPORTS REPORTER

Defending champions Minhazuddin Ahmed Sagar emerged unbeaten champion in the 23rd national sub-junior chess championship yesterday.
In the ninth and final round, Sagar, winner of the last two editions, defeated Shuvro Ghosh to clinch a hat-trick at this level.
As four players Shamim Akhter Liza, Mahfuzur Rahman, Shuvro Ghosh and Imran Ali all finished with seven points, a tie-breaker had to be used to separate them.
Eventually Liza bagged the runner-up spot, Mahfuz became third while Shuvro and Imran finished fourth and fifth respectively.
A total of 112 players took part in the meet.
Meanwhile, the 24th National Junior Championship begins today at the same venue.
Around 120 boys and girls are expected to take part in the nine-round Swiss League event.

Kenya expects ICC clearance

AFP, Nairobi

Kenyan cricket officials said Saturday that they are confident that a team of International Cricket Council (ICC) officials due here this weekend will declare the country safe to host two World Cup matches.
The Kenya Cricket Association (KCA) chairman Jimmy Rayani said

India must win



SPORTS REPORTER

After losing their first match to arch-rivals Pakistan 0-1, defending champions India will go all out to win in their second Group A match against tournament's new entrants Afghanistan at the Bangabandhu National Stadium today.
Pakistan meanwhile appear in the day's first match against Sri Lanka with a soaring confidence after beating India for the first time in their football history.
Shell-shocked Indians will be in no mood to show the Afghans any mercy as they must have to win in order to keep their semifinal hopes alive.
"We have to win both the matches against Afghanistan and Sri Lanka if we are to play in the last four," said Indian coach Stephen Constantine after his team's practice yesterday.
The English coach promised Indians would do anything and everything possible to come out victors against Afghanistan, who went down 1-0 to Sri Lanka on Friday.
But injuries kept haunting the top ranked Indians. Two of their key players -- Subhash Chakraborty and Alvito D'Conha -- refrained from the yesterday's training session at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium due to minor injuries.
India, who had to leave their four regular players back home including superstar Baichung Bhutia, might

find it hard to field a winning combination if Chakraborty and D'Conha miss today's match.
Understandably, Constantine declined to reveal his team for today's match.
Afghanistan, who played their first match without any practice because of their late arrival, had a session together at the Army Stadium in Banani yesterday. Five of their Germany-based footballers arrived in the city separately and they did not even see their teammates before.
Sri Lanka meanwhile are likely to miss the service of their injured defender Nalinandakumara in today's match against Pakistan.
The islanders practised at the BUET ground and Pakistan went to Army Stadium for training afternoon yesterday.

AFC chief calls on Fazlur

BSS, Dhaka

Asian Football Confederation (AFC) and chairman of FIFA Development Committee Mohamed Bin Hammam yesterday called on State Minister for Youth and Sports Fazlur Rahman at his office here.
During the meeting, they discussed matters of mutual interest and development of soccer in the country. They also discussed construction of a Football Bhaban in Dhaka under the 'Goal' project of FIFA.



Bangladesh's Kanchan (L) clears the ball against Bai Gopal Mahajan of Nepal during their SAFF Championship clash yesterday.

Thrilling Aussie win



AFP, Hobart

Australia snatched a seven-run win in a cliff-hanging one-day international against England in Hobart Saturday after the tourists partnered a magnificent opening partnership.
In a hectic finish, young all-rounder Shane Watson held his nerve and helped restrict England to 264 for seven wickets from their 50 overs as they attempted to pass Australia's 271 for four wickets.
Australia's total was built on an unbeaten 101 by man of the match Damien Martyn.
He was helped by Michael Bevan's 52 and Jimmy Maher's 49 not out.
The Australian total looked inadequate as England openers Marcus Trescothick (82) and Nick Knight (85) put on 165 runs to give England a marvellous platform.
But as soon they were parted, wickets fell regularly and momentum was lost as spinner Brad Hogg took three wickets.
In the final overs, captain Nasser Hussain still threatened to hit England to victory.
But medium-pace Watson conceded only four runs while taking the wicket of Alec Stewart in the 48th over.
Then, in the final over, he clean-bowled Hussain for 43 to assure victory.

Australia were hampered by the loss of spearhead Glenn McGrath, who left the field with a back strain after bowling seven overs for 31 runs.
There was no immediate indication of the seriousness of the condition.
"I knew if we could get a couple of wickets we could put pressure on their new batsmen and turn this thing around," said a relieved Australian captain Ricky Ponting.
A crestfallen Hussain said it was a disappointing result after England's strong early chase but said England had not been outplayed and had produced some good cricket.
He was, though, unhappy with his side's "sloppy" fielding, with the worst offender being Paul Collingwood who dropped two catches, one of them when Martyn was on 51.
England gave away 22 - 11 from erratic big fast bowler Steve Harmison - out of 31 extras.
Australia's extras total was 12.
"At two o'clock it might seem like just another wide, but at 10 past six they are desperate runs you need," Hussain said.
In Australia's innings, number four batsman Martyn hit a boundary from the last ball to complete a century.
After winning the toss and batting, Australia recovered from the loss of three early wickets to set the tourists a tough target.
Martyn finished with an unbeaten 101 (10 fours) from 114 balls, while

his fifth-wicket partner, Jimmy Maher, hammered 49 from as many deliveries at a sell-out Bellerive Oval.
Handing out savage punishment to the England attack, the pair smashed exactly 100 runs in 61 minutes.
The batting fireworks came after Australia had been precariously placed early.
Explosive opening batsman Adam Gilchrist (two) went in the second over, victim of a doubtful lbw decision.
Ponting (15) belted Jimmy Anderson for a four and a six off successive balls and edged the next as he drove extravagantly.
When Matthew Hayden (21) top-edged an attempted pull back to Harmison, Australia were a rocky 53 for three wickets.
But the right-handed Martyn, partnered by left-hander Bevan, put the innings back on track with a 118-run partnership.
They kept the scoring rate at about five an over, finding the gaps and punishing the odd loose ball.
However, when left-arm spinner Ian Blackwell was introduced the scoring rate eased.
Blackwell was rewarded for his accuracy when Bevan (52 from 99 balls) played the ball on to his stumps.
Maher, after a watchful start, lifted the scoring rate, his runs including four fours and a six.
Martyn had seemed likely to run



India's Virender Sehwag, who was later adjudged man-of-the-match, smashes one through covers on way to his century against New Zealand in the sixth ODI at Auckland yesterday.