



## Did U Know?

English girl Lottie Dod became the youngest Wimbledon tennis champion when she won the women's singles title in 1887.



## What to Watch

**ESPN**  
Cricket Programming  
Super Selector  
Repeat at 7:00 am  
Western Union World Football  
Taped Version at 8:00 am  
**Sportscentre Hindi**  
Sport News  
Live at 8:30 pm

**STAR Sports**  
India vs West Indies  
Sixth ODI, Highlights  
Repeat at 9:00 am  
**Sportsline Tonight**  
Sport News  
Live at 8:00 pm

**Star WHIZZ KID COMPETITION 18**

Tick the correct answers, post to **The Daily Star**  
Win attractive prizes  
Competition closes at 8 pm  
Feb 7, 2003 and draw

1. Who clinched the national junior chess title?  
Parag Ali Zia

2. Bangladesh lost to Namibia by 20 runs 2-wkt 7-wkt

3. Who became MVP in the SAFF Championship?  
Arman Rajani Alfaz

4. Who will lead Kenya in the cricket World Cup?  
Odumbe Tikolo Suji

5. Ronaldo in no plays for

Name .....

Class..... Roll No.....

School Address .....

Phone: (if any) .....

## TALK TURKEY



**Navjot Singh Sidhu**  
(Former Indian batsman)  
"The potential is there but they could be categorised as dark horses, not the favourites."  
On India's World Cup chances.

## DAY'S EVENT

**GrameenPhone Premier Cricket League**  
Kalabagan KC vs City Club  
Venue: BNS  
Dev Squad vs Indira Road SC  
Venue: Fatullah Cricket Stadium

## Khulna cricket

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**  
Abahani Krira Chakra emerged champions defeating Mohammedan Sporting Club in the final of the Under-13 Cricket League held yesterday at the Khulna Stadium.  
Abahani scored 162 all out in 39.5 overs and Mohammedan coasted to victory in 38.1 overs.

# Good day for biggies

**Cricket**  
**SPORTS REPORTER**

Abahani moved atop the GrameenPhone Premier Division Cricket League when they trounced Uttara Sporting Club by 67 runs at the Fatullah Cricket Stadium yesterday.

On a wicket that offered low bounce and unexpected turn, the title aspirants garnered a formidable 202, thanks to an aggressive 85 by veteran Pakistani right-hander Tareq Mahmud.

Tareq, who joined Abahani on Wednesday, hit one six and eleven boundaries in his 112-ball knock. Tareq dominated a 79-run stand for the fourth wicket with Asadullah Khan before being trapped in front of his wicket by Uttara spinner Monirul Islam.

Young Asadullah (26), opener Mehrab Hossain (25) and captain Akram Khan (17) were the other notable run-getters for the Dhanmondi club.

Pacer Syed Russell took three wickets off his ten overs to unsettle the Uttara chase. They were eventually all out for a paltry 135 in 46.3 overs. Seamer Alamgir Gazi and spinners Ali Arman, Suja Irfan and Mehrab Hossain bagged one wicket each to help Abahani register their third successive win.

Abahani have raised their tally to 18 points from three matches, four points clear of defending champions Victoria Sporting Club, who have 14 points. On the other hand, it was the first defeat for Uttara in three matches that kept them glued to their previous collection of 12 points.

### MOHAMMEDAN SC VS SURJO TARUN

At the Bangabandhu National Stadium, last year's runners-up Mohammedan Sporting Club returned to winning ways with a 63-run victory over Surjo Tarun Club.

Skipper Minhazul Abedin and youngster Aftab Ahmed struck half centuries to help Mohammedan

post a fighting 259 for nine after being asked to bat first.

Former Bangladesh captain Minhazul spiced his 48-ball 65 with two sixes and five firmly hits to the fence. Aftab meanwhile weighed in with a run-a-ball 55 that featured seven fours. Opener Nafees Iqbal and Pakistani Shahed Mahmud added 40 and 37 runs.

Surjo Tarun, in their chase, were restricted to 196 for nine despite Fazle Elahi's 40 down the order. Off-spinner Fahim Muntasir with three for 29 was the most effective Mohammedan bowler.

### BROTHERS UNION

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Mohammedan's Minhazul Abedin cuts a delivery from Surjo Tarun's Faruk during their GrameenPhone Premier Division Cricket League match at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

## KWAZULU-NATAL BD SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the World Cup lead-up match between Bangladesh and KwaZulu-Natal at Kingsmead in Durban on Wednesday.

**KWAZULU-NATAL:** 251 for six in 50 overs (H Amla 76, M Sanders 64, D Benkenstein 35; A Kapali 3-70, Monjurul 1-32)  
**BANGLADESH:** Hannan b Tweedie 6  
Al Shahrar c Stewart b B'stein 68  
Bashar b Gobind 20  
Ehsanul c Stewart b Gobind 92  
Imran st Stewart b Anderson 18  
Kapali not out 24  
Mashud not out 0  
Extras: (lb-5, w-19) 24  
Total: (For 5 wkts in 46.1 overs) 252  
Did not bat: M Rafique, Monjurul, T Baisya, Mashrafe-bin-Mortuza.  
Fall of wickets: 1-17, 2-82, 3-156, 4-185, 5-250

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Tweedie	9.1	1	50	1
Mhlongo	7	0	50	0
Gobind	6	0	36	2
MacQueen	6	0	27	0
B'stein	6	0	28	1
Anderson	8	0	39	1
Lazarus	4	0	17	0

**Result: Bangladesh won by 5 wickets.**  
**Toss:** KwaZulu-Natal.

## Surjo Tarun U-13 champs

**UNB, Dhaka**

Surjo Tarun Club emerged champions of the Dhaka Metropolis Under-13 Cricket Tournament with a massive 242-run victory over Victoria Sporting Club in the final at the Kalabagan Krira Chakra ground yesterday.

A brilliant 138 by Mahmudul Hasan helped Surjo Tarun to make an impressive 314 for eight in the stipulated 40 overs after electing to bat.

Mahmudul hammered 15 fours and six and sixes in his 98-ball blitzkrieg.

Rezaul Karim Bappi claimed four

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## WC warm-ups

**ICC Cricket World Cup SOUTH AFRICA 2003**

### STAR SPORT MONITOR

Following are the brief scorecards of yesterday's round of World Cup warm-up matches:

- NORTHERNS:** 277 (49.5 ov)
- AUSTRALIANS:** 278/5 (47.2 ov)
- Result: Australians won by 5 wickets**
- CANADIANS:** 215/7 (50 ov)
- NORTH WEST:** 217/3 (43.5 ov)
- Result: North West won by 7 wickets**
- BORDER:** 202 (46.4 ov)
- ENGLAND XI:** 203/2 (37.3 ov)
- Result: England XI won by 8 wickets**
- KWAZULU-NATAL:** 190/9 (50 ov)
- INDIANS:** 158 (38.2 ov)
- Result: KwaZulu-Natal won by 32 runs**
- EASTERN PROVINCE:** 130 (50 ov)
- KENYANS:** 132/6 (40.1 ov)
- Result: Kenyans won by 4 wickets**
- BOLAND:** 272/7 (50 ov)
- NETHERLANDS:** 187 (48.4 ov)
- Result: Boland won by 85 runs**
- NEW ZEALANDERS:** 306/5 (50 ov)
- GAUTENG:** 190/8 (50.0 ov)
- Result: New Zealanders won by 116 runs**
- EASTERNS:** 215/9 (50 ov)
- PAKISTANIS:** 189 (36.4/46 ov)
- Result: Easterns won by 26 runs**
- SOUTH AFRICANS:** 327/7 (50 ov)
- WESTERN PROVINCE:** 235 (46.3 ov)
- Result: South Africans won by 92**

# Ponting can't wait

**ICC Cricket World Cup SOUTH AFRICA 2003**

**AFP, Johannesburg**

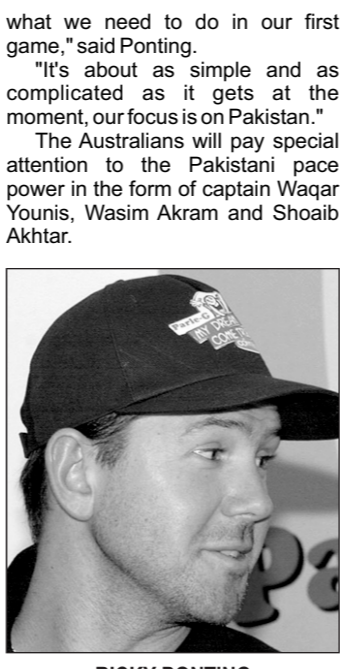
Australian skipper Ricky Ponting turned up the heat on Pakistan before their opening World Cup clash next Tuesday, saying he was hoping for a similar result as the one four years ago.

The green and golden Australians, then led by Ponting's predecessor Steve Waugh, sent Pakistan crashing to an eight-wicket defeat in the 1999 World Cup final at Lord's.

The two teams have been drawn in the same preliminary league group this time and are due to face each other at the Wanderers on Tuesday in what is being billed as a key match of the tournament.

"That'll be nice, yeah, that's what we are hoping for," Ponting told AFP when reminded of the Lord's final. The world champions were planning a full-scale assault on Pakistan, playing what spin wizard Shane Warne referred to as "the only cricket we know -- hard and aggressive."

Ponting said the opening match was "utmost on the players' minds." "We can't think any further ahead," he said. "If we did, we would not be paying enough attention on



**RICKY PONTING**

"These guys have a very strong bowling line-up," he said. "If conditions suit them they are very dangerous and can take early wickets." "So we have to make sure that we can get through the new ball and hopefully take it from there." Ponting conceded Akhtar was the danger man in the rival camp. "He's just a very, very dangerous

bowler," the Australian captain said. "We know that we need to get through those tough spells and hopefully he doesn't do too much damage."

Ponting revealed his team had special plans for every Pakistani bowler and batsman.

"We will come up with some plans for their batsmen and bowlers and perform those plans on the day."

Asked what they were, the impish Tasmanian just laughed, shrugged his shoulders and said: "No comment."

He said he believed his team was ready, mentally and physically. "I just think a lot of that comes down to preparation, how the individuals prepare themselves."

"If the guys stick to those routines they will step onto the field with a lot of confidence." Middle order specialist Michael Bevan agreed that the primary focus had to be on Pakistan. "That's probably the best way to approach it," the one-day specialist said. "If you do more than that you put yourself under an immense amount of pressure."

Bevan too was keeping mum on Australia's strategy. "Yeah, we have a strategy but it would probably not be in our best interest to reveal it," he laughed.

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# Zimbabwe threat

**ICC Cricket World Cup SOUTH AFRICA 2003**

**AFP, Harare**

Zimbabwe have warned they will refuse to play pool matches in South Africa if the International Cricket Council allows England and Australia to pull out of their scheduled matches in Zimbabwe.

Zimbabwe Cricket Union (ZCU) chief executive Vincent Hogg said here Thursday they will claim the points if England pull out of their World Cup clash in Harare on February 13.

"We expect the technical committee to rule in favour of the Zimbabwe-England match being played according to the schedule," said Hogg.

"We believe we have every right to refuse to play any match rearranged in South Africa, and without penalty to ourselves." Hogg spoke before he left for Cape Town to join his ZCU president Peter Chingoka at the International Cricket Council (ICC) technical committee meeting which will hear England's request to move the

Harare match to South Africa. Australia have similar reservations about playing their match in Bulawayo. "We see no reason for any change in their previously stated position. If the England players afterwards then decide they will not come here, that decision will obviously be on moral and political grounds, which the ZCU has not and will not get involved in," Hogg said. "England will then logically have to forfeit the points, whatever their reasons." England have demanded the game be moved because of their fears over the deteriorating security situation in the famine-ravaged land. If the ICC and the World Cup organisers do decide Harare and Bulawayo are no longer safe to host the six group matches, they will have to switch them all to South Africa. Zimbabwe would then be obliged to play every one of their group matches in South Africa or pull out of the World Cup, with dire financial consequences and with serious damage to the future of

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THE QUADRENNIAL FEVER HAS ARRIVED: A vendor on a city street yesterday displaying the national flags of some of the most popular teams participating at this year's cricket World Cup which gets underway in South Africa on Saturday.

# It's all together new for B'desh

**ICC Cricket World Cup SOUTH AFRICA 2003**

**REUTERS, Durban**

Bangladesh may have produced one of the biggest upsets in World Cup history with their 62-run victory over Pakistan in 1999 but feel they have to prove themselves all over again at this year's tournament.

Questions were raised over the commitment of Pakistan's effort four years ago, with the side already qualified for the next phase, and Bangladesh have since lost a world record 23 matches in a row before a match against West Indies was rained off.

"We certainly feel the need to prove ourselves once more at this World Cup," Bangladesh manager Abu Sharif Mahmood Faruque told Reuters on Wednesday.

"There will be a lot of pressure on us and all we can do is keep working hard." "But I think comments about the nature of our win against Pakistan in 1999 are totally unfair -- we played hard to achieve that victory and

## Ctg cricket

**CU CORRESPONDENT**

The Government High School handed down a 101-run defeat to the Grammar School in a Siraj Memorial Inter-School Cricket League match at Dampara Police Lines ground in Chittagong yesterday.

Opting to bat first, the Government High School amassed 233 runs for eight in 40 overs, one of their opener topscoring with 62. Middle-order Rakib made 42 runs with the help of one six and four fours.

Tousef and Masique of Grammar School claimed two wickets each.

In reply, the Grammar School were all out for 132 in 32 overs. Fahad made highest 43 for the losers.

On Wednesday, Police Institution defeated the Pioneer Institution by 20 runs in the opening match of the league.

## Old DOHS trounce St Andrews

**BSS, Dhaka**

Old DOHS Cricket Club defeated University of St Andrews Cricket Club by seven wickets at the Old DOHS Cricket ground yesterday.

After being put into bat, the

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# How the '96 WC went

**ICC Cricket World Cup SOUTH AFRICA 2003**

**AFP, Johannesburg**

The 1996 World Cup in India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka was controversial even before a ball was bowled. Just 18 days before Australia were due to play there, a bomb exploded in the Sri Lankan capital

Colombo and, as a result, the Australians refused to play their match and were duly docked World Cup points, although they still made it through to the final.

Subsequently, West Indies reached the same decision. Minnows Kenya caused an early shock when they beat West Indies after bowling them out for just 93.

Meanwhile Sri Lanka truly emerged as World Cup contenders when they faced England, who had only managed wins against the UAE and Holland in Group B, in the quarter-finals.

Chasing 235 for eight, Sanath Jayasuriya launched his team's reply in spectacular style with 82 off 44 balls including three sixes and 13 fours.

England had no answer to the assault and the Lankans were on their way. But their semifinal against India in front of a capacity 110,000 crowd at Eden Gardens produced fireworks of a different kind.

India, batting second, were in charge until Sachin Tendulkar was stumped for 65. Wickets fell regularly until at 120 for eight, the angry crowd started throwing bottles onto the field from all angles. There was no way the game could continue and match referee Clive Lloyd took the players off the field before awarding the game to Sri Lanka. Meanwhile Australia progressed in conventional fashion beating West Indies by five runs in a thrilling semifinal. It meant they now faced the team they had refused to play a month earlier in the tournament climax in Lahore. Sri Lanka's combative captain Arjuna Ranatunga put Australia in and saw opposing skipper Mark Taylor top score with 74 in a total of 241 for seven.



'IS THIS SUITABLE FOR A POST-VICTORY BASH?' India superstar batsman Sachin Tendulkar (L) takes a break from training and looks through the Armani range at 'Casanova', one of the most expensive boutiques in Durban on February 5. To his left is teammate Ashish Nehra.

**PHOTO: AFP**

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