



Did U Know?

Pakistan's Rameez Raja is the only player to be dismissed obstructing the field. He intercepted the ball with his bat to avoid being run out while taking a second run off the final ball to complete his hundred against England at Karachi on November 20, 1987.



Mark Boucher
(South Africa wicketkeeper)
"The decision to remove me from vice-captaincy did not hurt me. As a senior, I will keep guiding the youngsters and do whatever I can do for the team."



What to Watch

- BTV**
Bangladesh vs South Africa
Second Test, Day One
Live at 9:55 am
- ESPN**
West Indies vs Australia
Third Test, Day One
Live at 8:00 pm
Sportscentre Hindi
Sport News
Live at 10:05 pm
- STAR Sports**
Bangladesh vs South Africa
Second Test, Day One
Live at 9:55 am
Futbol Mundial
Taped Version at 7:30 pm
Sportsline Tonight
Sport News
Live at 8:00 pm
Harsha Online
Cricket Talk Show
Taped Version at 8:30 pm
- (Friday)**
BTV
Bangladesh vs South Africa
Second Test, Day Two
Live at 9:55 am
- ESPN**
West Indies vs Australia
Third Test, Day Two
Live at 8:00 pm
Sportscentre Hindi
Sport News
Live at 10:05 pm
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Star WHIZZ KID COMPETITION 193

Tick the correct answers, post to The Daily Star. Win attractive prizes.

Competition closes at 8 pm May 9, 2003 and draw shortly afterwards.

- Who clinched the Professor Abdur Razzak 29th National chess title?
Niaz Zia Reefat
- Who became man-of-the-match in the Sharjah Cup final?
Youhana Sami Taufiq
- Who will lead Sri Lanka's one-day side?
Tillekeratne Vass
- Who won the man-of-the-series award in the TVS Cup triangular tournament?
Atapattu

Name
Class Roll No.
School Address
Phone: (if any)

Hosts on face-saving mission

SPORTS REPORTER



Bangladesh vs South Africa

Bangabandhu National Stadium today.

The visitors won the first Test at Chittagong by an innings and 60 runs.

Bangladesh lost the match in the port city in four days and Khaled Mahmud's men are really under tremendous pressure to avoid yet another innings defeat after recording their twelfth such loss in 18 Test outings.

Mahmud however put up a brave face yesterday saying that his team was ready to produce a better batting show in Dhaka.

"This is an opportunity for us to give an improved batting performance. We are not looking at doing great things, but at least

to show that we will not do the same mistakes that we had done in Chittagong", said Mahmud after the nets in the afternoon.

Bangladesh suffered a stunning batting collapse after good starts in both innings in the first Test. Mahmud said that they had discussed a lot about it but the bottom line is that they have to concentrate on building partnership and play session by session.

"We were on top in only one session in Chittagong. This time we have to have more similar sessions," said Mahmud referring to the record second wicket partnership between Habibul Bashar and Javed Omar in the second innings.

When asked whether he was concerned about the lack of penetration in his bowling Mahmud preferred to be realistic rather than optimistic.

"On these types of wicket it is virtually impossible to bowl South Africa out twice with the resources we have. So, our prime objective is to strengthen our batting line up with as many batsmen we can with the hope that we can take the match to the

fifth day". Mahmud admitted that the toss would be vital for his team, if not for the tourists.

"It will be a very good batting wicket specially for the first two days. The wicket may break up as the match progresses," said Mahmud.

Sarwar Imran, in his last assignment as coach, hoped that his boys will give an improved account of themselves.

"I know it is not possible for them to make significant improvement overnight. But I will be happy if they just show that they are moving in the right direction," said Imran who served as a make-shift coach after the Board sacked Pakistani Mohsin Kamal last month.

Bangladesh will make one change too with left-arm spinner Robin Peterson coming in for left-arm seamer Charl Willoughby.

South Africa is likely to make one change too with left-arm spinner Robin Peterson coming in for left-arm seamer Charl Willoughby.



(L) Bangladesh's Alok Kapali ducks a bouncer from Mashrafe-bin-Mortuza while (R) a South African trainer watches Paul Adams clone Paul Kuddus bowling to the Proteas in the nets during the teams' respective training sessions yesterday.



PHOTO: STAR

BCCI wishes to play Pakistan

REUTERS, New Delhi

The Indian cricket board will ask the government to allow bilateral matches with Pakistan in neutral venues, a cricket official said on Tuesday.

"We will soon request the Prime Minister to consider allowing matches against Pakistan in neutral venues," Rajiv Shukla, a senior member of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) told Reuters.

The Indian government banned all bilateral matches between the two sides in 2000 because of political tensions between the countries surrounding the disputed state of Kashmir.

It has not opposed meetings in multi-country events in neutral venues and the two countries played each other for the first time in almost three years at the World Cup in South Africa in March. India won by six wickets.

The government rejected a BCCI request last month to resume bilateral matches with Pakistan after the board said the team would otherwise be isolated from world cricket.

There have been signs however of a political thaw in the last few days and the Prime Ministers of the two countries spoke to each other by telephone on Monday. It was the first contact between the leaders for 18 months.

BCCI president Jagmohan Dalmiya is expected to discuss the

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Anwar looks to the future



Football

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) general secretary Anwarul Haque Helal wants to reorganise the federation with a professional set up in a bid to rejuvenate the country's domestic and age-group programmes.

"We are the South Asian Federation (SAF) Games and South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) champions. What we need now is to have some long term planing so that we can retain this sub-continental supremacy. I have already thought of this. We need to develop a professional set up in the federation with a paid technical director so that he can plan and act accordingly with the approval of the executive committee," Anwar said while talking to the Daily Star Sport at the BFF office yesterday.

Anwar said that he would put emphasis on the age-group programmes and his first mission would be to start an inter-school football tournament.

Prominent sports organiser KZ Islam, who was appointed the chairman of BFF development committee had put forward a plan regarding the inter-school football competition last year. However,

due to various constraints, the proposed event hasn't taken off.

"If possible I will start with the inter-school football within the next two months. I want to continue with this programme so that we get quality footballers in the future. Besides, I want to restart the Pioneer League in Dhaka which has not been held during the last three years," said Anwar.

"We don't have regular leagues



ANWARUL HAQUE

in the districts. It takes only three to four lakh Taka to run a league at district level but the local authorities

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Whatmore due on May 12

SPORTS REPORTER

Newly appointed Bangladesh coach Dav Whatmore will arrive in Dhaka on May 12.

Although the former Sri Lankan coach was earlier scheduled to arrive on May 13, Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) director Mahbubul Anam yesterday confirmed the new date yesterday.

This will be a five-day orientation trip for Whatmore who will leave the city on May 16.

Whatmore has already signed a two-year deal with Bangladesh Cricket Board to coach the national team.

He will formally take over charge from the first week of May.

Lillee irate at Viv

AFP, Perth

Australian fast bowling legend Dennis Lillee hit back here Wednesday after being described by former West Indies' batting icon Viv Richards as a "huff and puff" merchant.

Richards, now West Indies chairman of selectors, reportedly said in the Caribbean that Lillee had lost his aggression after the West Indies discovered a crop of electrifying pacemen, including Michael Holding and Joel Garner, in the late 1970s.

The bitter verbal exchange blew

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Refreshingly Rudolph

Jacobus Andries Rudolph came to Bangladesh with a desire to start his international career on the right foot. But even the 22-year-old cricketer from Pretoria himself hadn't dreamed of what he would eventually achieve in his debut Test at Chittagong last week. His monumental 222 not out and doing that in an unbroken third-wicket partnership of 429 runs with Boeta Dippenaar were landmark achievements in the history of the game. The superb innings by the levelheaded left-hander put him on the elite list of only five double centurions on debut. His knock also ranked as the second best by a debutant after English batsman R Fosters' 287 against Australia in 1903.

His elevation to international cricket has come at a great speed and it was a blessing in disguise for him that his first five-day match against India in November 2001 was declared unofficial by the game's governing body ICC. Admirably mature for his age, this latest Protea hero talked to **AL-AMIN** of **THE DAILY STAR SPORT** at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday:

DSS: To score a double hundred on debut is a dream come true for any player. Did you ever dream that you would achieve this milestone before coming to Bangladesh?

JR: To be honest I don't think I was attempting at a double hundred. All I tried to do was to establish my place in the side. I think this double hundred is a blessing and I'm very pleased with that. I'm really looking forward to carry the good work to the next Test match.

DSS: You have scored a lot of runs in provincial cricket as an opener. How did you make the adjustments required for Test cricket so successfully?

JR: The standard and the quality of bowling at international level is much higher. You got to have more patience when playing international cricket. In provincial cricket you are going to get one or two bad balls in almost every over. But in international cricket you need patience and mental strength to wait for that bad delivery to come. I followed that concept.

DSS: You were supposed to

make your Test debut against India. But it did not happen as the ICC declared that match unofficial.



JACQUES RUDOLPH

Looking back, which debut would you have taken?

JR: Probably it was a blessing in disguise. I remember I only scored 21 runs in South Africa's only

innings against India in that unofficial match. But now I have scored a double ton and I'm very pleased that it happened. To be honest I could not have asked for a better Test debut.

DSS: Many say that you have similarity in your approach to the game with Kepler Wessels. How does it feel to be compared with the former captain?

JR: I haven't actually thought about it. I do not even know that people are trying to compare our approaches. But I would like to have the mental capability he had. He was unbelievably strong mentally and that is something I long for. But I'm not trying to model myself as Kepler.

DSS: Is cricket your first love or did you try other sports?

JR: To be honest I normally played cricket. I have got a couple of hobbies outside cricket, like gardening, fishing and hunting. I played a bit of rugby also and featured in athletics

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PHOTO: STAR
NOW YOU PLAY, I WILL KEEP SITTING: Jacques Rudolph, who scored an unbeaten 222 in the first Test in Chittagong, rests on a football while teammate Boeta Dippenaar shadow-practises during their training session at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

No Tendulkar for 5 months



REUTERS, New Delhi

India batsman Sachin Tendulkar has undergone hand surgery in the United States.

Secretary of the Board of Control for Cricket in India Karunakaran Nair told this news agency by phone from the southern city of Trivandrum on Wednesday that "the operation in Baltimore was successful and that rehabilitation could take four to five months".

Tendulkar has been suffering from a bone injury at the base of his left ring finger since the end of 2002. Despite the problem, he scored 673 runs at an average of 61.18 to be named player of the World Cup earlier this year but then pulled out of a one-day tri-series in Dhaka earlier this month.

India's next major engagement comes in October, when New Zealand are due to visit. India will then tour Australia at the end of the year.

Tendulkar has been troubled by a series of wear-and-tear injuries in the last few years. He stopped fielding in the slips after suffering back spasms in early 1999.

A foot injury sidelined him for the 2001 tour of Sri Lanka and an ankle injury during the December-January series in New Zealand kept him out of five one-dayers.

The 30-year-old, widely regarded as the world's best batsman, made his Test and one-day

debut at the age of 16. He has played 105 Tests and 314 one-



SACHIN TENDULKAR

dayers. Only three players have featured in more one-day internationals than Tendulkar.

James, Stephen win contracts

REUTERS, London

World Cup discovery James Anderson and fellow quick bowler Stephen Harmison have been awarded six-month central contracts by England.

"Both James and Stephen have shown their potential during the winter and I'm sure will go on to have long and successful international careers," chairman of

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Glenn back to trouble WI



AFP, Bridgetown

Glenn McGrath reignites his battle with West Indian batting supremo Brian Lara as the Australians press on after an historic Caribbean series whitewash in the third cricket Test here on Thursday.

McGrath sat out the opening two Test victories tending to his ill wife back in Sydney, but encouraged by an improved diagnosis on her cancer problems the 33-year-old pace spearhead is back for another tilt at Lara.

Australia have already retained the Frank Worrell Trophy following big wins in Guyana and Trinidad, now they are eyeing the prospect of becoming the first visiting team in 73 years of West Indies cricket to complete a series whitewash.

Yet despite Australia's dominance, Lara, 34 on Friday, has been a thorn in the side of the Australian bowlers on the flat Caribbean pitches, scoring 349 runs at an average of 87.25.

Lara thrilled his Trinidad followers with his first-ever Test century at his home Port of Spain ground in the second innings of the second Test last week and continues his batting crusade against the strongest team in world cricket.

Lara has now scored a hundred in Australia's last five Caribbean Tests and it is with opportune timing that McGrath resumes his rivalry with one of cricket's foremost batsmen.

McGrath has taken 422 wickets in 91 Tests and a combination of injury and family concerns has prevented him from playing for

Australia in their last four Tests the last two Tests of the home Ashes series with England and the two Tests here.



PHOTO: INTERNET
Australia fast bowler Glenn McGrath catches the ball during net practice at the University of West Indies in Barbados on Tuesday.