



South Africans celebrate the dismissal of Habibul Bashar (not in photo), taken by Robin Peterson (2nd from L), in the second Bangladesh innings on the third day of the second Test at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

A captain's anguish

in one day. Bangladesh could have easily being bowled out

twice in a day had not wicketkeeper Mohammad Salim offered stubborn resis-

"It was another hard day for us. We started with a promise to end our batting blues, but

unfortunately we threw away

the initiative created by the

once again blamed his bats-

men's poor application and temperament.

that caused our downfall," said

Chasing a commanding

South African first innings total

Mahmud.

The Bangladesh captain

tance under fading lights.

bowlers, Mahmud said.

SPORTS REPORTER



a pensive press to speak about a story of fail-

Khaled Mahmud was no exception. Since the feisty allrounder took over from Khaled Mashud, Mahmud led Bangladesh to four one-day defeats followed by an innings and 60 runs thrashing in the first Test against South Africa at Chittagong last week.

And the grim-faced skipper came face-to-face with reporters at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday knowing that a defeat in the second and final Test was just a matter of time.

of 330, Bangladesh were bun-It was again a sorry tale of dled out for 102 in the first

the hosts' brittle batting that innings and had to follow on. lost an astonishing 18 wickets

The home side however fared better in the second innings as they scored 204-8 at stumps on the third day.

"It could have been ideal had we scored something better than what we did in the first innings," lamented Mahmud.

Bangladesh's misery was compounded with some decisions going against them. Mahmud also believed that though his team's batting effort was far from satisfactory. "But some decisions were really unfair," he said.

"In the first innings not a single batsman could settle in the middle. Although the wicket produced uneven Admitting that the match was already lost, Mahmud hoped that tail would wag today in order to avoid an innings defeat. bounce, but it was a lack of application by the batsmen

With two wickets in hand Bangladesh need to score another 24 runs to at least make the South Africans bat again

PHOTO: STAF

Habibul Bashar plays the ball on the on-side during his second innings knock of 33 yesterday.

B'DESH-S AFRICA SCOREBOARD

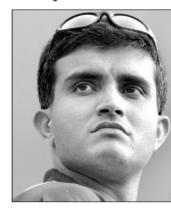
Scoreboard at stumps on the third day of the GrameenPhone second and final cricket Test between Bangladesh and South Africa at the Bangabandhu National Stadium on Saturday: SOUTH AFRICA: First innings 330 all out in 113.2 overs (M Boucher 71, J Rudolph 71, R Peterson 61, S Pollock 41; M Rafique 6-77, M Ashraful 2-42)

BANGLADESH: First innings (overnight 4-0)	R	M	В	4	6
Javed Omar c sub (A Hall) b M Ntini	11	47	36	1	0
Mehrab Hossain c G Smith b S Pollock	8	41	27	1	0
Habibul Bashar Ibw b S Pollock	14	19	11	2	0
Mohammad Ashraful c S Pollock b M Ntini	15	64	37	2	0
Akram Khan c M Boucher b M Ntini	13	29	21	3	0
Alok Kapali run out (PAdams/M Ntini)	1	14	7	0	0
Khaled Mahmud not out	20	54	39	3	0
Mohammad Salim c M Boucher b R Peterson	7	18	20	1	0
Mohammad Rafique c S Pollock b A Dawson	0	5	2	0	0
Tapas Baishya b A Dawson	4	6	6	1	0
Mashrafee-bin-Mortuza c B Dippenaar b R Peterson	1	21	12	0	0
Extras: (lb-4, w-1, nb-3)	8				
Total: (All out in 35.5 overs)	102				
Fall of wickets: 1-22 (Mehrab), 2-22 (Omar), 3-37 (Bashar), 4-53 (Akram), 5-62					
(Kapali), 6-66 (Ashraful), 7-73 (Salim), 8-77 (Rafique), 9-85 (Tapas), 10-102 (Bin-					
Mortuza)	•				
Bowler	0	M		R	W
SPollock	8	3	21		2
MNtini	11	4	32		3 2
ADawson	7	2	1	20	
RPeterson	8.5	1	2	22	
PAdams	1	0	3		0
BANGLADESH: Second innings (following-on)	R	М	B	4	6
Javed Omar c S Pollock b P Adams	27	109	73	4	0
SEE PAGE 14 COL 6					



Pakistani Salim Malik was the first fielder to hold four catches in a one-day international. He achieved this feat against New Zealand at Sialkot on December 2, 1984





MSC still have hope Tillakaratne for **3-Test series** Cricket

Cricket

INTERNET, Kandy Sri Lankan captain Hashan Tillakaratne has criticised the scheduling of only two Test matches during New Zealand's current tour.

The first match in Colombo ended in a draw and the chances of a positive result in the second Test at Kandy, which started Saturday, could be reduced by bad weather. Tillakaratne believes that twomatch series make captains "overdefensive".

He said: "We've never played a five-Test series and I'm not going to start dreaming about that, but we ought to try and squeeze in

three Tests in every series. Tillakaratne plans to raise his concerns with members of the Board of Control for Cricket in Sri

PHOTO: STAR

HASHAN TILLAKARATNE

Lanka, but they are not the only officials to schedule short series.

England have begun their home campaign with a two-Test series for the past few years and will do so again against Zimbabwe next SEE PAGE 14 COL 8

desperate attempt to stay in con-tention for the Premier Division Cricket League title got a lifeline vesterday. After rain washed out the first day, Mohammedan came out to bat on the second to score a fighting 294 for 7 before declaring the innings after 57 overs in their crucial Super League match against Brothers Union at the Fatullah Cricket Stadium yesterday.

SPORTS REPORTER

Brothers were 24 for no loss at close.

Although Brothers are already out of the title race, Mohammedan need an outright victory against the Gopibagh outfit to keep their slim chance alive before going into their final game against runaway leaders and defending champions Victoria Sporting Club.

But the elements at the moment are doing more harms to their cause than Brothers as heavy cloud

day's play at the Dhanmondi CricketStadium. is still threateningly hanging over the city. But Abahani drew little inspira-tion from the game since it did not

The Mohammedan innings was built around a century partnership between their prolific opening duo of Nafis Iqbal and Sandeep Sharma. The pair added 103 runs in only 13.5 overs with Indian Sandeep, who scored a double hundred in the previous match, domination the structurity a which

The right-hander struck 13

Left-arm spinner Mustadir Litu was the most successful Brothers bowler with four for 42 runs in his 11

Meanwhile, Mohammedans bitter rivals Abahani Krira Chakra scored 225 for 7 against Uttara Sporting Club at close of second

One-down Imran Ahmed made 39, but there were no fireworks in absence of their Pakistani recruit savage hits across the rope and a couple of sixes. Imran Nazir, who hammered a blazing hundred in the previous Nafis on the other hand was a bit patient and also scored 70 off 96 match against Victoria. balls. The young opener from Chittagong clubbed ten fours.

Young attacking right-hander Aftab Ahmed also scored an impressive 50 off 65 balls. He ham-mered half a dozen fours and two



Mohammedan Sporting Club's dominating the stand with a whirl-wind 70 off 44 balls.

included six fours and a four.

Debabrato Pal picked up four wickets for 69 runs from Uttara.

SCOREBOARD

Scorecards on the second day of the two GrameenPhone Premier Cricket League matches played at different venues yesterday:

have any bearing on deciding the c h a m p i o n s h i p a f t e r t h e Dhanmondi side were thrown out of the race.

Sajjadul Hasan top-scored for Abahani with 46 off 44 balls that

Mohammedan vs Brothers Union Venue: FCS **MMOHAMMEDAN:** First innings

for no loss in 5.1 overs)

SEE PAGE 14

Saurav Ganguly

(Indian cricket captain) "I wish I could carry on for a few more years. My goal is to turn out in 100 Test matches."



BTV **Bangladesh vs South Africa** econd Test, Day Four Live at 9:55 am

TEN Sports Sri Lanka vs New Zealand Second Test, Day Two Live at 10:30 am ESPN

West Indies vs Australia Third Test, Day Four Live at 8:00 pm **STAR Sports**

Bangladesh vs South Africa Second Test. Dav Four Live at 9:55 am **English Premier Football League** Arsenal vs Leeds United Live at 9:00 pm Primera Liga Deportivo vs Recreativo Live at 1:00 am (Monday)

Ulihrach fined for doping

AFP, Ponte Vedra Beach

Czech tennis player Bohdan Ulihrach awaits a heavy punishment for testing positive for the steroid nandrolone, the ATP announced on Friday.

Ulihrach will receive a two-year suspension retroactive to October 26, a fine of 43,770 dollars and a forfeiture of 100 ranking points after an independent Tennis Anti-Doping Program tribunal determined that his urine sample taken at the Moscow tournament on October 3 tested positive for metabolites of nandrolone, a Class 1 banned substance.

Steve wow

Cricket

AFP, Bridgetown

cricket.

pair of ducks in the previous Test to be 34

The 37-year-old Australian

skipper scored his 30th Test hun-

dred to overtake Don Bradman as

Australia's greatest Test century-

maker and lie second only to another famous compatriot Allan

Border in most runs scored in Test

Waugh survived three dropped

catches on his way to scoring 115

under threat at the start of the year before his emotion-charged 102 in the fifth Ashes Test against Steve Waugh set more personal England in Sydney last January, milestones to become the secondtoiled away on an deteriorating highest run-getter in Test history pitch for just over five hours for his as Australia pounded the West Indies in the third Test at 233-ball hundred. Kensington Oval here on Friday.

Waugh passed Indian Sunil Gavaskar (10,122) as the secondhighest scorer in Tests with 10,179 runs in his 159th Test match. Border holds the world record Test aggregate of 11,174.

Waugh, whose Test career was

The immortal Bradman had stood since 1948 as Australia's greatest century-maker with 29. but Waugh claimed yet another prestigious landmark to stamp his

Windies 149/2 Lara contracts chicken pox?

AFP, Bridgetown

The West Indies were 149 for two at lunch in reply to Australia's first innings of 605 for nine declared on the third day of the third cricket Test at Kensington Oval here on Saturday.

Daren Ganga was on one as was Ramnaresh Sarwan. Meanwhile, captain Brian Lara

stayed at the team hotel on Saturday with suspected chicken pox and a high temperature as the hosts battled to save the match.

Lara, who turned 34 on Friday, spent much of the second day in the team dressing-room, but was not at the ground on the third morning, team officials said. If confirmed, he will be the

second West Indian in the series to come down with chicken pox.

as Australia battered the West Indian bowlers for 154.3 overs to amass the country's fifth-highest score of 605 for nine declared in Tests against the Caribbean islands

At the close of the second day, the West Indies had made a secure start to be 89 without loss with WAUGH-MADE: Australia captain Steve Waugh pulls one for four on way to recalled opener Chris Gayle his 30th century on the second day of the third Test against West Indies at the unbeaten on 47 and youngster Devon Smith fighting back from a Kensington Oval in Bridgetown on May 2.

greatness in the annals of cricket.

Waugh was out attempting to slog fast bowler Jermaine Lawson out of the ground only to be bowled by a delivery which stayed low.

It was Australia's third massive first innings total of the series following their 489 in the first Test and 576 for four declared in the second.

Brian Lara's much-criticised decision to send the Australians into bat on a flat, moribund pitch rebounded spectacularly with his young side once again struggling to avoid defeat.

> Adam Gilchrist, who clubbed SEE PAGE 14 COL 2

"I've played a few more Tests than him (Bradman) so that puts it

into perspective. Waugh was equally low-key about passing Sunil Gavaskar's total of 10,122 runs to became the second highest scorer in Test history.

Asked what it meant, he replied: 'Not much, really. It's nice but I haven't thought about it at all."

Waugh then turned his attention to the Kensington Oval pitch, where 694 runs have been scored in two days' cricket in the third Test and only nine wickets taken.

"This has not been a typical West Indies tour," he said.

BCCSL poll on June 6?

The Board of Control for Cricket in Sri Lanka (BCCSL) will hold elections after a government decision to end a two-year period of contro by interim committees.

The sports ministry confirmed on Wednesday that the BCCSL annual general meeting (AGM) would take place in approximately one month probably on June 6.

Lakshman Kiriella, the then sports minister, disbanded the last elected administration in March 2001 on legal grounds, amid financial mismanagement rumours.

A series of interim committees followed. the first headed by Vijaya Malalsekera and the last by e

k "It does not look good at all," m а Harper said. "Let's hope for the SEE PAGE 14 COL 8

"Usually, when you come to the West Indies, balls are flying around your ears and the crowd are getting excited.

"This time, it's low, flat and slow and it's difficult for the crowd to get involved in the game.

"We heard it was going to be pacy and bouncy but I've played 159 Tests and this is the slowest pitch I've ever played on.

"It's disappointing to play on a pitch like this

Waugh had been hoping that Australia could become the first team to pull off a whitewash in the Caribbean after winning the first two Test matches but was less confident after the first two days in Bridgetown.

"It's so difficult to get batsmen out here but it's amazing what can happen if you put a team under

Asked if he though the home team were playing for a draw, Waugh said: "We're here to win and I'm hopeful that is the way the West Indies will play.

pointing and it doesn't show much faith in their bowlers.'

Opening day

lost to rain

PHOTO: STAF Bangladesh opener Javed Omar stands his ground after he was given out caught in the slip in the second innings yesterday. Television replays showed Shaun Pollock (not in the picture) took the catch after the ball hit the around.

Sampras skips **Rome Masters**

AFP, Rome

American veteran Pete Sampras, who hasn't played since his US Open triumph last September, will not make his long-awaited reap-pearance at the Rome Masters next week.

Inclement weather over this popular hill resort for the past week and the forcast of heavy rain ahead has threatened to make the decisive Test a non-starter.

It dawned bright and sunny on Saturday morning, but overnight rain left the stadium a soggy mess and the ineffective drainage system caused further headache for the groundstaff as they struggled to clear the outfield.

best on Sunday."

The rival teams did not make an appearance at the ground, awaitn SEE PAGE 14 COL 8

The 31-year-old Sampras has joined Wimbledon champion Lleyton Hewitt of Australia, Germany's Tommy Haas and Croatia's Goran Ivanisevic in skip-ping the event, one of the final lead-up tournaments to the French Open.

NOTICE

Due to unavoidable circumstances our regular column 'Symcox Spins' written by former South Africa off-spinner Patrick Symcox could not be published vesterday.



PHOTO: INTERNET

pitches Cricket **REUTERS**, Brigdetown

Steve Waugh, who became the first Australian to make 30 Test centuries on Friday, played down the achievements afterwards and instead slammed the West Indies pitches.

"I'm just a caretaker, I'm sure (fellow Australian) Ricky Ponting will take over one day" the 37-yearold told reporters after breaking Donald Bradman's record of 29.

pressure.

"I wouldn't say I'm confident but I'm hopeful."

"If they don't it will be disap-

Cricket

The opening day's play in the

second and final Test between Sri

Lanka and New Zealand was called

off without a ball being bowled on

Saturday due to a slushy outfield at

Umpires Daryl Harper and

Simon Taufel, both from Australia,

had one look at the conditions an

hour before the toss to abandon

the rain-ravaged Asgiriya Stadium.

AFP, Kandy

play for the day.

