



## Did U Know?

The greatest innings in one-day international history, according to the Wisden 100 and almost anyone who witnessed it. Viv Richards smothered England all round Old Trafford in the first Texaco Trophy match, with his 189 not coming off only 170 balls, with 21 fours and five sixes. What makes the innings so great is its context: West Indies were 102 for 7 at one point, then 166 for 9. They ended up making 272 for 9, and won by 104 runs.



## What to Watch

### TEN Sports

French Open  
Live at 4:00 pm

### ESPN

Western Union World Football  
Repeat at 11:30 am  
Primera Liga  
Real Sociedad vs Valencia  
Same Day Delay at 6:30 pm  
Sportscentre Hindi  
Sport News  
Live at 8:30 pm

### STAR Sports

Sportsline Tonight  
Sport News



## Talk Turkey



**Mutiah Muralitharan**  
(Sri Lankan star off-spinner)  
"He is a great player and this time I want to win the battle against him."  
About Brian Lara

## Star WHIZZ KID COMPETITION 19

OMPETITION 19

Tick the correct answers, post  
The Daily Star

Competition closes at 8 pm  
June 13, 2003 and draw shortly afterwards

- Who clinched the national youth hockey title?  
Dhaka BKSP Dinajpur
- How many Test matches has Wasim Akram played?  
112 104  
205
- Who became UEFA Cup champions?  
Celtic Porto  
Dortmund
- How many Grand Slam titles does Pete Sampras have?  
13 1 4

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

## Div I b'ball Josephites post win

UNB, Dhaka

Josephites Club continued their winning run in the Metropolis First Division Basketball League beating Flame Boys Club 104-43 at Dhanmondi Basketball gymnasium yesterday.

The first half score was in favour of the Josephites with 49-34 points. Leo caged 25, Yasir 23 and Fazle 20

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SO, ARE YOU READY FOR A TOUGH TIME? Bangladesh cricket coach Dav Whatmore chats with Mohammad Rafique at the BCB's Bangabandhu National Stadium office yesterday. PHOTO: STAR

## Sharif seeks Board's help

**SPORTS REPORTER**

Mohammad Sharif is hoping that the Bangladesh Cricket Board can help him make a return to action.

"It's impossible for me to recover from injury without the help of the Board because I need to go abroad for treatment," said the national paceman yesterday.

A frustrated Sharif came to talk to team physio John Gloster at the Bangabandhu National Stadium during the national team's reporting for a residential camp.

Gloster informed that Sharif, who last played against Pakistan at home in January 2002, needed at least six months to make a full recovery.

It was earlier thought that the promising bowler had a groin problem but Gloster told him it was more to do with his bones than his groin.

"It is due to a friction between groin joints. It happens mostly with footballers and takes a long time to overcome," he said.

"Sharif feels the problem when he is about to deliver the ball. I will discuss his problem with experts in Australia."

## Agassi, Moya move on

**AFP, Paris**

Andre Agassi and Carlos Moya, both former champions, joined newcomer Martin Verkerk in the quarterfinals of the French Open men's singles on Sunday while three-time champion Gustavo Kuerten progressed into the last 16.

Agassi, the US second seed and 1999 titlist, whipped unseeded Brazilian Flavio Saretta 6-2, 6-1, 7-5, advancing on his sixth match point.

Spanish fourth seed Moya, winner in 1998, banged down 13 aces in scoring a 7-5, 6-3, 6-2 win over Czech 13th seed Jiri Novak and now faces new 'kid' on the block Verkerk, an unseeded 24-year-old Dutchman who had never won a Grand Slam encounter until this event.

Verkerk blasted past Australian Open finalist and 11th seed Rainer Schuttler of Germany 6-3, 6-3, 7-5.

Kuerten, who lifted the trophy in 1997, 2000 and 2001, made it into the last 16 after finishing off his third-round match with Argentine 21st seed Gaston Gaudio, whom he dispatched 7-6, 7-5, 5-7, 6-3, the contest having been halted at 3-3 in the third set overnight for bad weather and fading light.

Kuerten now faces Spain's Tommy Robredo, conqueror of world number one Lleyton Hewitt, after winning on his third match point when Gaudio returned a big serve long.

In the women's competitions, Serena Williams and Amelie Mauresmo set up a quarter-final showdown at the French Open when they both came through their fourth round matches on Sunday.

But while Mauresmo, whose popularity is at an all time high in France, was all business in dispatching Spain's Magui Serna 6-1, 6-2, Serena was strangely tentative in struggling past gutsy Ai Sugiyama

# Tough training awaits players

**Cricket**

**SPORTS REPORTER**

The national cricketers are set to experience a tough drill when coach Dav Whatmore opens his Bangladesh innings at the BKSP today.

The famed Sri Lankan-born Australian said that he was keen to spend the next five days together with his new charges in the tranquil surroundings of the country's lone sports institute in Savar.

Although he did not elaborate, but one thing is for sure the workout promises to be much more strenuous than what our cricketers had experienced in the last two years under former Pakistan Test pacer Mohsin Kamal.

"I want to use the five nights with the boys at the BKSP as an opportunity to get to know a lot of things. It will also be a chance for them to prove themselves individually," said Whatmore at the Bangabandhu National Stadium before leaving with the 20-member preliminary Bangladesh squad for Savar.

Whatmore has been entrusted with changing the fortunes of the Test babes, who have been performing poorly for too long. But he could expect a stern test when Bangladesh tour Australia later this month.

While elaborating on his three-week camp before Bangladesh go down under on June 22 to play two Tests and three one-day internationals, Whatmore said his first job would be to identify the team's weak areas.

"In the first week I hope to identify the weaknesses of every player. Besides, during the week I will have one-on-one interviews," he said adding that it will help him to formulate the final squad.

"And I expect within two weeks to have an idea on which players will be going to Australia," said Whatmore.

When asked whether he had been given the necessary logistical support as sought by him during his visit last month, Whatmore responded negatively.

"I wanted a home for Bangladesh cricketers. It would be a home

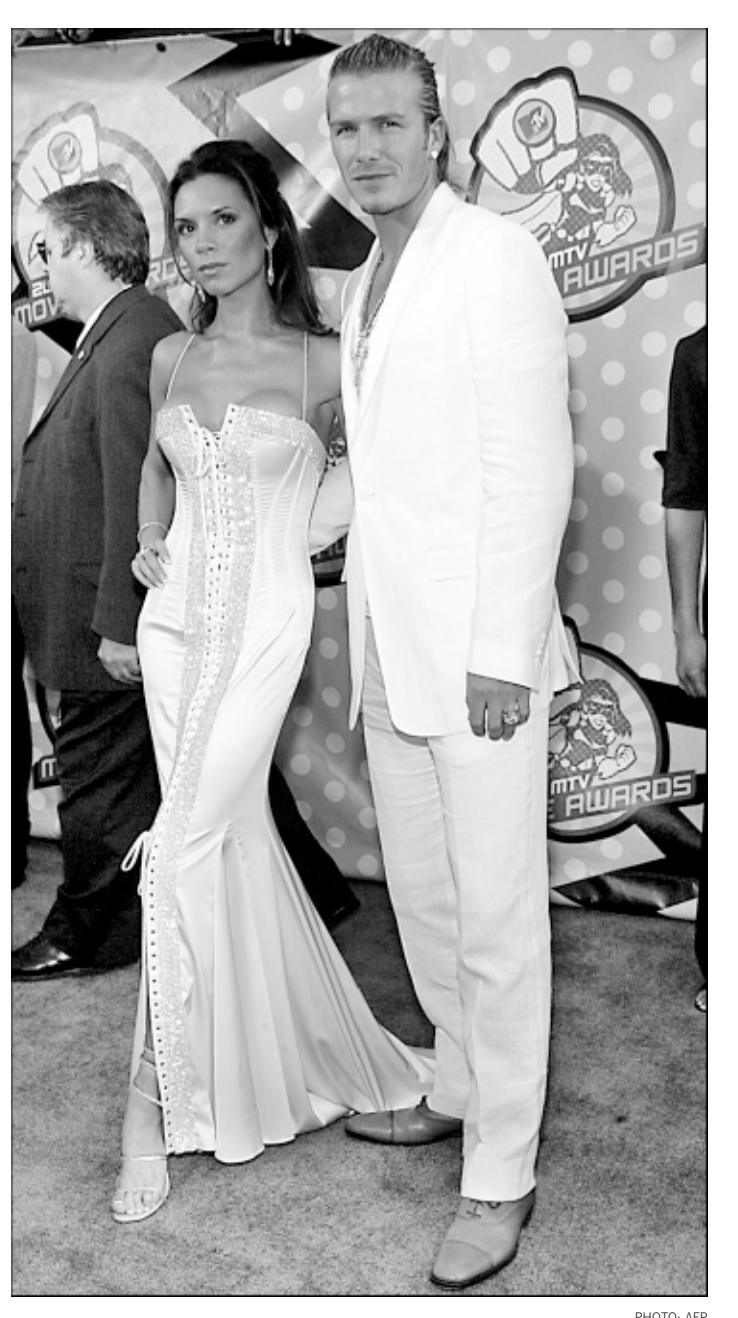
containing a ground, a good practice wicket, a gym inside, a swimming pool next to the ground and good accommodation. I don't think I will get it right at the moment, but may be in the next few months," he said.

All the players except Shahriar Hossain and Moniruzzaman reported at the Bangabandhu National Stadium. The two cricketers were playing in a crucial National Championship match at Comilla. Both players later proceeded to the BKSP as soon as the game between Bangladesh Biman and Narayanjanj was over.

Al Shahriar, who was ignored for the home series against South Africa, wanted to take full advantage of his call up to the national team after the right-handed opener was dropped for a poor World Cup.

"It is true the axe fell on me because of my poor batting in the World Cup. But now I want to turn it around. My first goal is to get into the final squad and then work hard to cement my place in the team for the next five years," said Al-Shahriar.

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MTV'S MOST WANTED! Manchester United superstar David Beckham and his wife Victoria at the MTV Music Awards in Los Angeles on May 31. PHOTO: AFP

## Barca bid to lure Becks

**AFP, London**

Barcelona are hoping to lure David Beckham to the Nou Camp by putting a 30 million pound (49.4m dollars) price tag on the Manchester United star, according to press reports here Sunday.

United have accepted the offer, which was made verbally by representatives from the Spanish club, the reports suggested, adding that no formal bid can be put down in writing until Barcelona's new president is elected on June 15.

Barca join a host of clubs including European Champions AC Milan reportedly keen to secure the services of the 28-year-old England captain.

Beckham, on vacation in America, has insisted he wants to stay at Old Trafford.

Two newspapers, the Mail and Independent on Sunday, suggest United are aiming to buy Paris Saint Germain's Brazilian World Cup winner Ronaldinho as a replacement if Beckham goes.

"The idea of joining Manchester United makes me dream, because they are a big, successful club and play my kind of football," Ronaldinho, who played in Saturday's French Cup final which PSG lost 2-1 to Auxerre, told the Independent on Sunday.

"I admire Manchester United," Ronaldinho told the newspaper.

"I love watching them play. Of course I would like to be at a great club like that - anybody would. I have a burning desire to be involved with a club that plays in big games all the time."

Ronaldinho said when he looked at Premiership football it made him eager to get involved.

"It's like being a kid by a pool - you just want to jump in," he said.

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# Aminul pilots Biman



## Cricket

**SPORTS REPORTER**

Veteran batsman Aminul Islam struck a fine half-century as Bangladesh Biman stormed into the final of the 26th National Cricket Championship with 103-run thrashing of Narayanjanj in the first semifinal at the Comilla Stadium yesterday.

Aminul made a polished 72 off 95 balls to guide the national flag carriers to a commanding 238-7 in the stipulated 50 overs after they were put in.

Narayanjanj in their chase, never looked like toppling the challenging Biman total and were bundled out for 135 in 44.2 overs.

Aminul's match-winning effort came a day after his hopes for a Test-recall was dashed. The former national captain and country's first Test centurion was not considered in the 20-man preliminary squad for the tour of Australia announced on Friday for his inconsistent form in domestic cricket this season. But his vital knock on a difficult Comilla wicket bore all marks of his invaluable experience and left Biman just a step away from retaining the national championship title.

The holders will take on the winners of the second semifinal between Comilla and Rajshahi at

the MA Aziz Stadium in the final scheduled for June. The second semifinal will be held at Chittagong today.

Coming into bat at his customary position of number four, Aminul held the Biman innings together after opener Jahangir Alam and one-



AMINUL ISLAM...72

down Moniruzzaman, a new face in the Australia bound probables' list, had departed early.

Jahangir returned to the dressing room without troubling the scorers. Moniruzzaman, the leading run scorer of the domestic season, failed to celebrate his maiden call to the senior team as he was out for just six.

With Biman reduced to 30-2, Aminul joined young opener Rashedul Haq to add 53 runs for the third wicket before Rashedul departed for 38 off 61 ball. He struck five fours and a six.

Aminul was also involved in an enterprising 74-run stand for the fifth wicket with wicketkeeper Sajjad Kadir, who scored a fluent 54 off 62 balls that included three massive sixes and two fours.

Aminul's workmanlike innings featured only three hits across the rope but when he was eventually castled by SH Mona, Biman were firmly placed on 210 for five.

Mosaddek Hossain came in and made a brisk 20 off 15 balls. The leg-spinner also captured three wickets for 37 runs after his exploits with the bat.

Biman's right-arm seamer Aminul jr. laid to rest any hopes of a Narayanjanj fight back by dismissing both openers including the prized scalp of Shahriar Hossain.

Shahriar, the discarded national opener, threw caution to the wind with a quickfire 32 off 30 balls before being clean bowled by Aminul.

**BRIEF SCORE**  
**Bangladesh Biman vs Narayanjanj**  
Venue: Comilla  
**BANGLADESH BIMAN:** 238 for 7  
**NARAYANJANJ:** 135 for 10

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Indian custodian Dvesh Chauhan tries to stop Australian striker Jamie Dwyer during their tri-nation hockey final clash in Perth yesterday. PHOTO: AFP

# Hockeyroos down India

**AFP, Perth**

A last-minute goal by striker Michael McCann secured a thrilling 2-1 win for Australia over India in the final of a tri-nations field hockey tournament here Sunday.

The Australian senior side triumphed after Australia A had won 2-1 against a shattered Pakistan, who slumped to their fourth defeat in five days.

Australian coach Barry Dancer was delighted with his top team's improved performance, which came a day after they were embarrassingly thrashed 7-2 by Australia A, the surprise packet of the competition, in a "dead rubber" match. "Being able to respond after being beaten, and getting home after going behind today -- that's a step forward this

## Australia 134/5

**SPORTS REPORTER**

Australia were 134 for five in 33 overs in the seventh and last one day international against the West Indies at Grenada yesterday.

Darren Lehmann was batting on 55. Australia lead the series 4-2.

## Dev Cup hockey from June 5

**BSS, Dhaka**

The Development Cup (under-14) hockey tournament will begin on June 5 at Maulana Bhashani National Stadium.


Jessore will take on Gaibandha, while Dhaka meet Munshiganj in the opening matches.

Dhaka, Bandarban and Munshiganj will play in Group A while Jessore, Rangamati and Gaibandha in Group B.

Two top teams from each group will play in the semifinals on June 9. The final will be held on June 10.

Six teams are taking part in the meet.

# Hewitt, Henman exit



## French Open

**AFP, Paris**



World number one Lleyton Hewitt endured another Roland Garros

nightmare on Saturday, conceding his third round French Open battle to Spanish 28th seed Tommy Robredo after being two sets up.

Robredo advanced 4-6, 1-6, 6-3, 6-2, 6-3 as Hewitt snatched defeat from the jaws of victory, serving up 12 double

faults and dropping serve eight times having led 3-0 in the final set.

The 21-year-old Robredo next meets either Gaston Gaudio of Argentina or three-times winner Gustavo Kuerten of Brazil for a place in the quarter-finals.

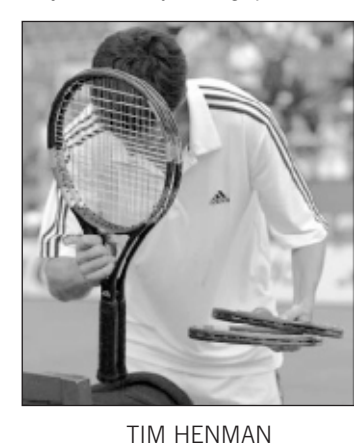
Their match was held over after the light faded with Kuerten two sets up and the players level 3-3 in the third.

"I think that there's nothing better than this match," said Robredo, who prevented Hewitt improving on a dismal record here which has seen the Adelaide reach the quarter-finals just once in five visits.

"Beating the world number one like this is the best thing I can imagine. To do it in this way coming back from three-love in the fifth set was just incredible," gasped Robredo.

"I couldn't have imagined it. If you want to beat him you have to

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LLEYTON HEWITT

TIM HENMAN