



### Did U Know?

The first batsman to get a 'duck' in one-day cricket is Australia's Graeme Watson. It was against England at Old Trafford on August 24, 1972.



### What to WATCH

#### TEN Sports


French Open  
Women's Final  
Live at 5:00 pm

#### ESPN

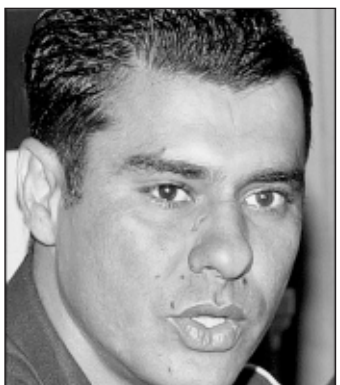
England vs Zimbabwe  
Second Test, Day Three  
Live at 3:45 pm

#### STAR Sports


Harsha Online  
Cricket Talk Show  
Repeat at 8:30 am  
West Indies vs Sri Lanka  
First ODI



### TALK TURKEY



**Waqar Younis**  
(Former Pakistani cricket captain)  
"This will probably be my last season in county cricket but I'm a professional cricketer, I enjoy it and appetite is there."  
**After signing a one-year contract with Warwickshire.**



### Star WHIZZ KID

#### OMPETITION 19

Tick the correct answers, post  
**The Daily Star**

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

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

Name .....

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

School Address .....

Phone: (If any) .....

### Dev Cup hockey

**BSS, Dhaka**

Rangamati defeat Gaibandha 2-1 in the Development Cup Hockey Tournament at Maulana Bhashani National Stadium yesterday.

Rangamati led the first session 1-0 with Sohail Rana scoring after four minutes.


A second half goal from Bikram Marma doubled the lead before Rajon Mahmud reduced one goal for Gaibandha.

Munshiganj beat Bandarban by a solitary goal in the other match of the day.

After the barren first half skipper Selim brought the coveted match winner converting a penalty corner for Munshiganj.

# Mahmud retained as skipper

## Probe findings goes official today

**Cricket**

**SPORTS REPORTER**

All-rounder Khaled Mahmud will lead Bangladesh in their first ever tour of Australia in July.

The decision to retain the 32-year-old as skipper was taken at a meeting of the advisory council of the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) at its Navana Tower office in Gulshan yesterday.

Mahmud was appointed captain for the TVS Cup tri-nation one-day tournament and the two-match Test series versus South Africa after Khaled Mashud had stepped down from the hot seat in March.

Lt Col (retired) MA Latif Khan, who made a positive impact during his brief stint with the Tigers during the series against South Africa also kept his job as manager for the tour down under.

Bangladesh are scheduled to play two Tests and three one day internationals against the world

champions. A 15-member national team heads for Australia on June 22.

Chaired by BCB president Ali Asghar the meeting, which lasted

Sport yesterday.

It was learnt that the advisors expressed their displeasure at the publication of the top-secret document even before the findings have

a media briefing today afternoon.

**UNDER-23 PROBABLES NAMED**

Among other developments, the Board appointed former national captain Faruque Ahmed as the manager of Bangladesh under-23 team that will tour Sri Lanka later this month to play five two-day and three one-day matches against Sri Lankan under-23 squad.

The Board also called up 18 cricketers for the preliminary camp for that tour. The nine-day camp will start from June 9 under the supervision of national age-group coach Malcolm Perera of Sri Lanka who has also been named as the team's coach for the tour. The under-23 team is scheduled to leave Dhaka on June 18.

The following cricketers have been asked to report to Perera at 4 pm on June 8 at the BCB's Bangabandhu National Stadium

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KHALED MAHMUD



COL. LATIF

nearly three hours, reportedly focused mainly on the probe committee report on Bangladesh's dismal World Cup performance which was leaked in The Daily Start

## BCB comes to Sharif's aid

**Cricket**

**SPORTS REPORTER**

Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) has decided to come forward and help paceman Mohammad Sharif recover from a career threatening injury.

The youngster has been out of action for the last 18 months with a groin injury.

Sharif, who played eight Tests and as many ODIs for Bangladesh, suffered his injury during Bangladesh's home series against Pakistan in January 2002.

Although, Sharif received treatment from renowned Indian surgeon Dr. Thomas Chandni in Bangalore, the right arm seamer is yet to recover fully.

"We want to take a second opinion on Sharif's condition from another specialist in Australia. John Gloster (Bangladesh team's physio-therapist) will carry all his (Sharif's) medical reports to Australia this month and will consult with a specialist. The Board wants to stand by Sharif at his moment of crisis," said BCB advisor Mahbubul Anam yesterday.

### Div I b'ball

**BSS, Dhaka**

Dharmketu Club maintained their winning run when they inflicted an emphatic 109-32 win over Rangers Club in the First Division Basketball League at Dhanmondi Basketball Gymnasium yesterday.

The winners enjoyed a 54-14 first half lead.

Dharmketu's Senegalese recruit Abdullah struck 33 points, while Pintu and Osman, their other overseas players from Niger, scored 20 points each to earn the ninth consecutive win.

Earlier, Amalendu helped Eagles Club beat Old DOHS (Saturn) 85-48.

Eagles led the first half 39-22.

# WI face SL today

**Cricket**

**AFP, Bridgetown**

The West Indies will focus more on consolidating gains than exacting revenge when they clash with Sri Lanka in the three-match one-day series starting here on Saturday.

The hosts earned a lot of respect by becoming the first team since England in 1997 to inflict three successive defeats on Australia despite losing to Ricky Ponting's side 4-3 in a recent home series.

Skipper Brian Lara, encouraged by a hat-trick of wins against the World Cup champions, told his young team to maintain consistency against Sri Lanka.

"If we don't drop our standards, we're going to get more success against teams of lesser ability than Australia," said Lara.

The West Indies have lost three of their last four one-dayers against Sri Lanka, including a six-run defeat at the World Cup in March.

At the World Cup, the West Indies failed to go past the first round while Sri Lanka qualified for the semifinals.

The teams' fortunes have, however, taken different courses since then.

The West Indies redeemed much of their image under Lara,

who took over captaincy from Carl Hooper after the World Cup.

They made history by chasing a record 418 to win the fourth and final Test against Australia at Antigua and then went on to clinch the last three one-dayers.

"We've proved that we can be competitive, but we've to maintain it. Now we know where we stand," said Lara.

The gifted left-hander led from the front in both the Tests and one-dayers against the Australians, making 533 runs in the Test matches.

Openers Chris Gayle and Wavell Hinds played big roles in their team's wins in the one-dayers. Hinds emerged the top-scorer with 352, followed by Gayle (275) and Lara (242).

Sri Lanka's performance has dipped since the World Cup. They failed to qualify for the finals of two successive tournaments -- at Sharjah in April and then at home last month against Pakistan and New Zealand.

The team has lacked consistency since prolific batsman Aravinda de Silva retired after the World Cup. Sanath Jayasuriya resigned as captain after Sharjah and Dav Whatmore quit as coach.

Sri Lanka's new one-day captain Marvan Atapattu conceded the West Indies were favourites.

"They are playing at home and their morale is high. The West Indies

when he had Travis Friend leg before for the fourth nought of the innings and Zimbabwe captain Heath Streak (four) lbw playing no stroke.

Zimbabwe were now 35 for seven.

Johnson, like Anderson in England's innings and 92 run first Test win at Lord's, had taken five wickets on his Test debut.

England, who won the toss Thursday, saw Ashley Giles post 50 before he was last man out caught at mid-on off fast bowler Streak, the Zimbabwe skipper proving the pick of the attack with four for 64 from 34



PHOTO: BBC

DASHING DEBUT: Richard Johnson @, the debutant England paceman, is being congratulated by Robert Key on getting a wicket at Chester-Le-Street yesterday.

## Carry on batting

**AFP, Sydney**

Steve Waugh on Friday said he wants to continue playing Test cricket.

"I'm pretty keen," Waugh said ahead of the July-August Test series to be played against Bangladesh in Cairns and Darwin, in Australia's north.

"I haven't made a final decision, but it's all very positive. I'm preparing as if I'm going to keep playing."

Steve, now 38, said he was looking forward to the different experience of playing in northern Australia and dismissed suggestions a series against Bangladesh, which has not won a Test in 18 attempts, was a waste of time.

"You've got to give them opportunities and chances and I think they have to get some help as well," Waugh said.

"If it's not happening at the moment and they are struggling, they need some help from elsewhere."

"Perhaps that's Australian coaches or Australian knowledge or from somewhere else."

"The ICC (International Cricket Council) have got to look at that -- I'm sure they will but it will take time."

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overs.

England began Friday on 298 for five with Stewart 67 not out and McGrath 68 not out.

But neither man went on to make a hundred although their sixth-wicket stand of 149 rescued England from 156 for five on Thursday.

Stewart was lbw for 68 to Streak, the ball keeping low.

Then McGrath, who made 69 on his Test debut at Lord's, again missed out on a hundred.

On 81 he fended at medium-pacer Blignaut and was caught

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Both 21-year-old Henin-Hardenne, who comes from the French-speaking Walloon region, and Clijsters, from the majority Dutch-speaking Flanders region, will be bidding to become the first Belgian Grand Slam champion.

It is the second Grand Slam final for both, with Clijsters reaching the 2001 French Open final, and Henin-Hardenne runner-up in Wimbledon the same year.

But as she eliminated world



PHOTO: AFP

A combo photo of Belgium's Justine Henin-Hardenne (L) and Kim Clijsters.

# Belgian Slam at stake

**French Open**

**AFP, Paris**

Justine Henin-Hardenne will not only be fighting for her slice of history when she takes to the Philippe Chatrier Centre Court Saturday against fellow Belgian Kim Clijsters in the French Open women's singles final.

Both 21-year-old Henin-Hardenne, who comes from the French-speaking Walloon region, and Clijsters, from the majority Dutch-speaking Flanders region, will be bidding to become the first Belgian Grand Slam champion.

It is the second Grand Slam final for both, with Clijsters reaching the 2001 French Open final, and Henin-Hardenne runner-up in Wimbledon the same year.

But as she eliminated world

number one Serena Williams Thursday, Henin-Hardenne must have remembered the heartache of her first Grand Slam defeat to the powerful American's elder sister Venus two years ago just hours after her grandfather suffered a massive heart attack and died.

That tragedy happened only a few months after Henin-Hardenne, whose mother died of cancer when she was 12, also lost a three-month-old nephew to cot death syndrome.

Henin-Hardenne was taken straight back to Belgium by Crown Prince Philippe and his wife, Princess Mathilde, who had watched the match from the Royal Box.

This time out the Belgian, who married boyfriend Pierre-Yves Hardenne last November and was the 1997 French Open junior champion, wants to fulfil her vow to her mother when she attended Roland Garros as a child, that one day she

too would be holding the trophy.

"I used to say 'mum, one day that will be me'," recalls the player, who standing 5ft 5in (1.67m) and weighing 126lbs (57kg) has proved that she is more than a match for her larger opponents.

"I'll fight every point for sure to try and win my first Grand Slam title," said Henin-Hardenne, who believes that clay is her best chance of a Grand Slam win.

"Power is not the same as that on a hard court. So I believe maybe a little bit more in my chances on a clay court for sure."

Her record this season bodes well for the fourth-seeded Henin-Hardenne, winning three of her nine titles, and becoming only the fourth woman in tennis history to win the clay court titles in Charleston and Berlin successively.

"I'm feeling much stronger than last year - physically and mentally."

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# Verkerk storms into final

**French Open**

**AFP, Paris**

Big-serving Dutchman Martin Verkerk roared into the French Open men's singles final on Friday, beating Argentine seventh seed Guillermo Coria 7-6, 6-4, 7-6 in 2hr 40min.

The 24-year-old Verkerk, the first ever Dutchman to make the final, will now meet either Spain's defending champion Albert Costa or last year's finalist Juan Carlos Ferrero in Sunday's final.

Only one Dutchman has even won a Grand Slam title. Richard Krajicek, like Verkerk a huge server, landed the 1996 Wimbledon crown.

Verkerk, a late developer who won his first title at Milan in February, is only the third Dutchman to reach a Grand Slam final with Tom Okker having been 1968 US Open runner-up.

His 400,000-euro (468,000-dollar) pay cheque for reaching the final doubles his entire previous career earnings.

"I still don't know what happened. It's a fantastic moment for me. It's a dream for me to be in the final of Roland Garros. It's unbelievable," said Verkerk, who wiped away tears of joy at the end when Coria

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PHOTO: AFP

Martin Verkerk of the Netherlands is about to execute a backhand against Guillermo Coria of Argentina during their semifinal yesterday.

# Tasty Stew

**Cricket**

**AFP, London**

A proud Alec Stewart was handed an incentive to continue Test cricket after he moved into second place in England's list of Test run scorers on the first day of the second Test against Zimbabwe at the Riverside here Thursday.

Stewart's 67 not out took him past fellow former England captain David Gower's tally of 8,231 runs and into eighth place overall in the all-time list of Test run scorers.

It also helped England recover from 156 for five to their stumps total 298 for five and after close of play Stewart said: "It's something to go past the likes of David Gower and Geoff Boycott."

"It gives you another reason to carry on."

Aged 40, veteran wicketkeeper batsman Stewart's continued inclu-

sion in the Test team has provoked much media debate in England.

Some pundits have said the selectors should drop the Surrey stalwart in favour of younger rivals such as Essex's James Foster or Nottinghamshire's Chris Read.

But Stewart, extending his England Test appearance record to 128 matches in this game, said: "A lot's been written and said about my position but all I've ever done is make myself available."

His current total of 8,280 runs is

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All-time list of leading Test run scorers (runs, player, country, matches, innings, average, highest score, 100s, 50s):										
11,174	Allan Border	(AUS)	156	265	50.56	205	27	63		
10,265	Stephen Waugh	(AUS)	160	249	49.83	200	30	46		
10,122	Sunil Gavaskar	(IND)	125	214	51.12	236	34	45		
8,900	Graham Gooch	(ENG)	118	215	42.58	333	20	56		
8,832	Javed Miandad	(PAK)	124	189	52.57	280	23	43		
8,811	Sachin Tendulkar	(IND)	105	169	57.58	217	31	35		
8,540	Vivian Richards	(WIS)	121	182	50.23	291	24	45		
8,280	Alec Stewart	(ENG)	128	227	40.39	190	15	44		
8,231	David Gower	(ENG)	117	204	44.25	215	19	39		
8,114	Geoffrey Boycott	(ENG)	108	193	47.72	246	22	42		
8,032	Garfield Sobers	(WIS)	93	165	77.78	365	26	30		
8,029	Mark Waugh	(AUS)	128	209	41.81	153	20	47		

Stewart's figures include his current innings against Zimbabwe

ALEC STEWART