



## Did U Know?

West Indies hold the record of playing most consecutive Tests without defeat. The played 27 matches from Sydney 1981-82 to Melbourne 1984-85 without a defeat.

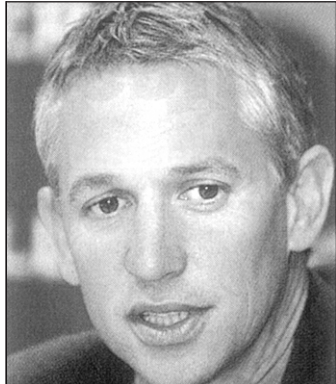


### BTV

**Nitol-Tata National Football League**  
Muktijoddha Sangsad, Dhaka vs Mohammedan SC, Sirajganj  
**Live at 4:00 pm**

### ESPN

West Indies vs Sri Lanka  
Second Test, Day Three  
Highlights  
Repeat at 7:30 am  
**Twenty20 Cup Cricket**  
Warwick vs Leicesters  
First Semifinal  
**Live at 3:30 pm**  
**Gloucesters vs Surrey**  
Second Semifinal  
**Live at 7:30 pm**  
&  
**Final**  
**Live at 12:00 am (Sunday)**  
**STAR Sports**  
Soccer Soap  
Dream Team  
Repeat at 8:30 am, 4:00 pm & 5:30 pm  
Gillette World Sports Special  
Intl Sports News  
Taped Version at 6:30 pm



### Gary Lineker

(Former England soccer great)  
"The biggest winner is likely to be England manager Sven-Goran Erikson."

On David Beckham's transfer.

## Schools kabadi

UNB, Dhaka

Alhaj Jafar Bepari High School improved their chances of entering the semifinals of the schools Kabadi tournament with a 66-7 win over AK High School at the Outer Stadium kabadi court yesterday.

The winners dominated the first half 39-4.

In the day's other matches Mirpur Siddhanta High School overcame JB Memorial Academy 47-7.

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## Our friends down under

Bangladesh cricket fans are receiving insight and reports of the team's historic clash with Australia from deep within enemy territory.



Mackinoltly



Cherry

Australian journalist Chips Mackinoltly and Australian mango farmer-turned photographer Stephen Cherry are filing reports and pictures exclusively for the Daily Star.

"It's a gesture of friendship with the people of Bangladesh," says Mackinoltly, a 49-year-old scribe with vast experience.

Mackinoltly, who has written for Australian papers such as The Sydney Morning Herald, the Age and magazines like The Bulletin and Who Weekly, has asked any fees for his copy be donated back to help develop junior sport in Bangladesh.

He's gleaned extra insight into

# Bowlers bowl with pride



CHIPS MACKINOLTLY from Darwin

A tragic batting display in the face of the most ruthless bowling attack in the world left Bangladesh reeling yesterday as the Tigers fell for 97 runs with Australia replying with 121-2 at stumps.

Only sharply focused bowling and fielding left Bangladesh with significant honours on the first day of the inaugural Test with Australia at the Marrara Oval.

Winning the toss and sending Bangladesh into bat was a deliberate tactic by the dominant Australians -- one expected by Tigers' coach Dav Whatmore, who had intended batting first if the toss was won in any case.

"It didn't surprise us ... it's always probably preferable to get a bit of pressure -- we knew they would bowl anyway."

A flat pitch and slow outfield was always going to favour bowlers, but the batting was not so much a collapse as a rout in the face of the withering Australian attack.

From the first ball faced by Hannan Sarkar from Glenn McGrath it was obvious, with a slips cordon of six catchers, a fine leg and only two fielders other than the bowler in front of the wicket. It was intimidation of the highest order from the world's strongest team playing the newcomers to international cricket.

As it was -- as fearless as he was facing the world's greatest quick -- Hannan lasted only 17 minutes to go for a duck leg before, with the score at only four runs.

For the rest of the innings, there were only brief highlights from the bat of right-handers Mohammad

Ashraful on 23, caught at fine leg by Jason Gillespie from the bowling of McGrath, and 21 from skipper Khaled Mahmud leg before wicket to leg-spinner Stuart McGill. The demise of the only half way decent partnership, of 27, between the captain and wicketkeeper Khaled Mashud saw the last four wickets fall for only ten runs.

Although Mahmud's Test average was only six leading up to this match, his strokeplay suggests that he should play higher than number eight, in the hope that he can support some of the more recognised batters. Certainly his work on this tour seems to reflect the sort of maturity that might be useful further up the order -- though Whatmore says that is 'a subjective decision.'

Failures by Habibul Bashar at 16 and Al-Shahriar for a duck, both spectacularly clean bowled by speedster Brett Lee reflects a mortal weakness in the Bangladeshi side -- a singular lack of concentration. While Javed Omar looked as though he might settle in to graft a solid opening knock, he fell to a caught behind after 47 minutes for a mere five runs.

No batsman excelled, and this failure from Tigers' batsmen concerns Whatmore.

"There were a few players that presented their wickets, which is just the area we're trying to get better in."

"(Some) of the guys looked reasonably comfortable -- but they got out," he said. "It's a learning curve, it's a good opportunity as well -- maybe they were a bit overawed."

Once again, as with the match against the Northern Territory Chief Minister's XI, it was the bowlers and fielders who were able to enhance the reputation of the Bangladeshi side.

With a history of breaking the hearts of opponents with big hitting and high scoring, tight fielding and accurate bowling from the Tigers limited the Australians to 2.7 runs an over.

Mashrafe-bin-Mortuza threatened from the start, and his dismissal of champion opener Matthew Hayden for 11 was just reward for his accuracy. If his bowling did not unnerv the Australians, at least they treated his attack with caution as he achieved 10 overs at only 19 runs with three maidens.

A brilliant forward diving catch by Javed Omar at short cover from the bat of Ponting and bowling of Tapash Baishya was the highlight of the attack, leaving the Australians at an unexpected 43-2.

And, while the day ended at 121-2, the honours very much lay with the tourists who managed to limit the Australians to a scoring rate that would be the envy of many of their recent Test opponents. The world's number one side managed only 78 runs in 135 minutes.

"To be honest I'm reasonably happy with the effort that's been put in with the ball," said Whatmore.

"By and large they gave a very good account of themselves. The guys are pretty keen to get out there and do well for themselves, and I think they're achieving it."

### SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the first day of the first cricket Test between Australia and Bangladesh at Marrara Oval on Friday:

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PHOTO: STEPHEN CHERRY

WHERE DID THAT ONE GO? Australia's star batsman Ricky Ponting is totally beaten by a Mashrafe-bin-Mortuza outswinger at the Marrara Oval in Darwin yesterday.

## BTV down and out?

SPORTS REPORTER

Cricket fans of the country will not be able to watch the Bangladesh-Australia series. Bangladesh Television failed to secure live feed of the first day's play in Darwin yesterday.

When The Daily Star Sport contacted director general of BTV Mustafizur Rahman last night he said there was even little chance of showing recorded highlights.

"We are now trying to arrange one-hour highlights of the match. But it is very unlikely since we couldn't get any positive response from the Australia's Channel Nine."

Mustafizur also denied that lack of money was responsible for the state-run media not showing the match.

## McGrath, Lee being modest

REUTERS, Darwin

Glenn McGrath and Brett Lee leapt to Bangladesh's defence after tearing through their batting on the opening day of the first test on Friday.

The two Australian pacemen captured three wickets each as the tourists were skittled for just 97 in less than three hours.

But McGrath, who finished with three for 20, said Bangladesh were still a developing team and shouldn't be criticised too harshly.

"They did okay, it's a slow wicket and the outfield is slow so that was probably worth 150 anywhere else," McGrath said.

"I guess they would like to have scored more runs than that but it can't be too easy coming in against Australia with the team we've got."

Lee, who claimed 3-23, said

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## Eight schools in final round

SPORTS REPORTER

Eight teams -- Rahmatullah High School, Nabakumar Institute, Matuail Bahumukhi High School, Dulaipar High School, Residential Model School, Laboratory School, Blue Bird School and Kamarpara High School -- confirmed their final round berths in the Dhaka Metropolis schools football competition yesterday.

Rahmatullah High School blanked Nawabpur High School 5-0 and Nabakumar Institute thrashed Ahmed Bawani 6-1 at the Dhaka University ground.

At the East End Club ground, Matuail Bahumukhi High School earned a solitary goal victory against Rajdhani High School while Dulaipar High School also scored 1-0 victory over Mirpur Bangla High School at the same venue.

Residential Model School defeated Rayerbazar High School 2-1 and Laboratory School beat St Joseph's 4-3 in tiebreaker at the Dhanmondi Club ground.

At the Uttara Police Lines ground, Blue Bird beat Emarat High School 1-0 and Kamarpara High School blanked Mullartek Udayan High School 2-0.

## Trevor bats for Bangladesh!



CRICINFO, undated

Trevor Chappell, Bangladesh's former coach, believes they are capable of becoming one of the world's leading cricket nations, but in the meantime they must overcome several problems.

Chappell coached the team for a year until late 2002, and rated their prospects highly despite their lowly start to international cricket.

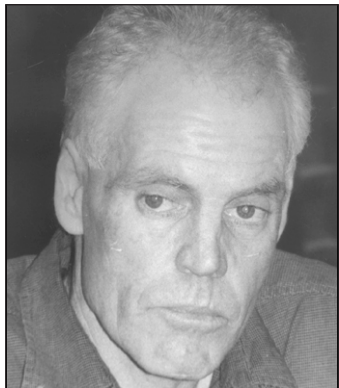
"From the point of view of talent and numbers playing the game, they could be the next Pakistan," he said. "Kids are playing [cricket] in any vacant land they can find. They have natural flair."

"But the struggle for land is significant. Half the country is under water most of the time, then when its monsoon time that probably goes to 80 per cent. There is not a lot of spare ground for building cricket grounds."

The weather, unfortunately, is not Bangladesh's only stumbling block. "Their administrators talk a good game," added Chappell, "but nothing much happens. Every wicket is low and slow. It is hard to learn good cricket on those sorts of wickets. And their domestic com-

petition is not non-existent, but close to it."

Chappell reported that when



TREVOR CHAPPELL

the team arrived at Allan Border Field in Brisbane, they practiced for four hours because they had never seen facilities like that before in their lives. "You have these sorts of thing in Australia where volunteers and teachers bring lunches and umpire and score," said Chappell.

"In Bangladesh most people are more worried about where their next feed is coming from than anything else."

## NFL second leg starts today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

The second leg of the Nitol-Tata third National Football League's kicks off at the Sylhet Stadium today.

In the opening match Muktijoddha Sangsad Krira Chakra face Mohammedan Sporting Club of Sirajganj at 4 pm.

Bangladesh Television will provide live coverage from the venue.

Forests & Environment Minister Sahjahan Siraj inaugurate the meet today as chief guest.

However football lovers of the divisional headquarters will be more interested to see a Latin American in action when Brazilian midfielder Sandro Nagueiya Pedrosa

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## BHF in search of a coach

SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh Hockey Federation (BHF) is looking for a qualified foreign coach for the national team.

The federation has requested the Asian Hockey Federation to send a good coach.

Bangladesh's next international assignment is the Asia Cup to be held in the Malaysian capital of Kuala Lumpur from September 20-28. But there is no chance to appoint

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## NT comes to fore



CRICINFO, Darwin

Test cricket came to Australia's Top End on Friday, when Steve Waugh won the toss and put Bangladesh in to bat on the drop-in pitch at the Marrara Oval, a cosy oasis of green in the dry old Northern Territory.

It's normally an Australian Rules football stadium, with cavernous dressing-rooms beneath the big concrete grandstand. Notices on the walls beseech players not to spit (or worse) on the floors.

After a quiet start it was business as usual for Bangladesh, who lost wickets in clumps after being put in. Punters with money on at 14/1 that the match would be all over inside a day are going to be disappointed, but the local TV station, which is only broadcasting the fourth and fifth days live, must already be looking out a few more repeats of Neighbours or Home and Away.

There were extra-loud cheers for Jason Gillespie, especially when he struck to remove Javed Omar and start a slide in which four wickets tumbled for 14 runs. Gillespie, you see, is part-Australian, and up here in NT the indigenous Australian peoples make up 30 per cent of the population, compared with around 2 per cent in the country as a whole.

Gillespie is proud of his Aboriginal heritage and has traced his forebears back to the Kamilaroi tribe.

"I'm an interesting mix because

I've got Aboriginal blood and on my Mum's side it's mainly Greek," he said.

"I was never really brought up as an indigenous person. But I've really started reading about it and

where that my side of my family comes from."

In a country just coming to the fore, it's a mix of

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PHOTO: STEPHEN CHERRY

WE BELONG HERE: A Bangladeshi child proudly parades the national flag around the Marrara Oval in Darwin yesterday.

## ODI table irks Saurav



AFP, New Delhi

Indian captain Saurav Ganguly slammed the latest one-day rankings on Friday after his team dropped to number eight despite reaching the World Cup final earlier this year.

"It's very strange," Ganguly told reporters. "I don't know how the International Cricket Council (ICC) derived its conclusions."

"I see no logic behind this."

The new rankings released were derived after removing the results of matches played more than two years ago.

India, which were earlier ranked fifth, now find themselves above only lowly Zimbabwe, Bangladesh and Kenya.

This despite the fact that in the last 12 months, Ganguly's men won the NatWest Series final in

England, shared the rain-hit Champions Trophy with hosts Sri Lanka and was in the World Cup final in South Africa.

"One just can't take these rankings seriously," Ganguly said.

"I think we have played well over the last 12 months."

It's an argument the ICC refuses to buy.

"India's ranking reflects its inconsistent performances in recent times," an ICC statement said.

"India has performed well at the World Cup and Champions Trophy but lost its home series against the West Indies and struggled against New Zealand away."

World champions Australia extended their lead at the top of the table to 16 points, their tally of 134 points way ahead of second-placed South Africa's 118.

England and the West Indies, knocked out in the first round of the World Cup, shot up to number

three and four respectively. They are followed by New Zealand and Sri Lanka.

Pakistan, earlier ranked third, find themselves in seventh place. "It reflects their recent patchy form and the fact that a number of strong performances two years ago no longer count towards its rating," the ICC said.

### LATEST ONE-DAY RANKINGS

1. Australia
2. South Africa
3. England
4. West Indies
5. New Zealand
6. Sri Lanka
7. Pakistan
8. India
9. Zimbabwe
10. Kenya
11. Bangladesh