DHAKA FRIDAY OCTOBER 17, 2003, E-MAIL: dssports@gononet.com

The only two Test cricketers to play Davis Cup tennis were Cota Ramaswami of India and West Indies wicketkeeper Ralph Legall.



DD Sports India vs New Zealand Second Test, Day Two

Live at 10:00 am **TEN Sports**

Pakistan vs South Africa First Test, Day One Live at 10:30 am

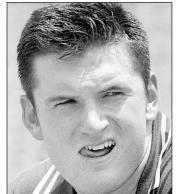
ESPN Australia vs Zimbabwe Second Test, Day One Live at 6:30 am Football Focus Repeat at 5:00 pm Western Union World Football Taped Version at 6:30 pm

Sportscentre India Sport News Live at 8:30 pm

STAR Sports

Futbol Mundial Repeat at 8:00 am Sportsline Tonight Sport News Live at 8:00 pm Tennis Masters Series, Madrid Quaterfinals Live at 11:30 pm





Graeme Smith

(South Africa cricket captain) "I have learnt to handle all levels of responsibility. But things have been made easier because I am leading a fantastic bunch of players.



Competition closes at 8 pm Oct 17, 2003 and draw shortly afterwards

. Who won the Asia Cup hockey title?

Pakistan India Malaysia

2. Who was man-of-the-series in

the Bangladesh and Pakistan one-day series? Inzamam

Bashar 3. Who became the Pepsi 16th

nat'i 'men's handball champions? BDR

4. Who are the European Cham-

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

Yousuf at odds with selectors

REUTERS, Lahore

Differences over the delegation of powers between the selectors and Pakistan team management flared up again on the eve of the first Test against South Africa.

Stand-in skipper Yousuf a n a h SEE PAGE 14 COL 4

Nafees A team's spark Rajin Saleh to produce 103 runs for

the third wicket.

This century stand had definitely upset the English plans of a quick mop up operation as they had done the Bangabandhu National Stadium against the BCB President's Eleven earlier this week.

Saleh, the find of Bangladesh in Pakistan, contributed a 91-ball 28 in that vital third-wicket stand.

But once paceman Richard Johnson broke through the stubborn partnership by finding the edge of Saleh's bat after lunch the tourists took control of proceedings.

The only blemish for the nephew of former national captain Akram Khan came when he called his nonstriking partner Nazimuddin for a risky single but Rikki Clarke made no mistake to knock down the stumps with a direct hit from gully.

The brilliant innings of Nafees, who will lead the Bangladesh Under-19 team in a four-nation tournament in Pakistan later this month, finally came to an end while attempting yet another big hit but was caught at long-on off off-spinner Gareth Batty whom he slammed a six and a four in that eventful over.

The middle-order collapse at one stage sent the home side reeling at 179-7 but thanks to a gritty eighth wicket stand of 40 runs between Arafat Sunny (25 off 110 balls) and

Mossadeq Hossain (21 off 52 balls) they managed to cross the 200-

The damp outfield at the country's lone sports institute prevented another 30 runs being added to the Bangladesh Ateam total.

English fast bowler Stephen Harmison, who removed both the openers, was most successful claiming three wickets for 35 runs in 10 overs while Johnson took two for 35 runs in 13.5 overs. But there was little luck for a persevering Matthew Hoggard, who had eight maidens in his spell of 11 overs and got only one wicket for 19 runs

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at close of play on the first day of the three-day tour match between Bangladesh A and England on Thursday:

BANGLADESH A: First innings Igbal c Thorpe b Batty Omar c Read b Harmison Afatb c Clarke b Harmison Saleh c Read h Johnson 28 Nazim run out (Clarke) 11 Muntasir c Vaughan b Giles Sagir b Hoggard Sunny c Hussain b Harmison Mosaddeq Ibw b Collingwood 21 SEE PAGE 14 COL 1



PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

HITHERE: Bangladesh A opener Nafees Iqbal replies to his mates' applause after reaching his century against England on the opening day of a three-day practice match at the BKSP in Savar

Opening record for NZ

Cricket

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

42 all out at stumps

batted out the whole day.

England were mystified by a mas-

terful century from Nafees Iqbal on

the opening day of the three-day

match against Bangladesh A at the

the English bowlers with disdain

hammering 118 off 168 balls as the

nome side put up a decent total of

A star in the making the opening

patsman from Chittagong not only

vore down the seven bowlers

employed by England captain

Michael Vaughan but also ensured

that the second string national team

His typically aggressive innings,

which contained 14 boundaries and

a huge six, also gave the selectors

ample food for thought that he would

be the first in line if ever a vacancy

But the start of the Ateam innings

gave little indication of what was to

follow after Bangladesh opener

Javed Omar, who was out for a

With the team struck down at 17-

2 Nafees was joined by his captain

duck, and hero of the first three-day

match Aftab Ahmed fell for four

arose the top in the national team.

The young right-hander treated

BKSP ground in Savar yesterday.

AFP, Mohali

Lou Vincent and Mark Richardson hit centuries as New Zealand grabbed the early initiative in the second and final cricket Test against ndia here on Thursday. Vincent struck a career-best 106

and Richardson remained unbeaten on 102 as the tourists posted 247-1 by stumps on the opening day after captain Stephen Fleming won the toss on a batting-friendly wicket. The pair put on 231 for the first wicket. New Zealand's first double-

century stand in an overseas Test

since 1971 when Glenn Turner and

Terry Jarvis hit 387 against the West The Richardson-Vincent partnership was New Zealand's best for anv wicket against India in Tests. surpassing the 222 for the third

wicket between John Reid and Bert Sutcliffe at Delhi in 1955-56. Their effort left the Kiwis well-

placed to dominate the decisive Test after the first Test in Ahmedabad ended in a draw on Sunday.

Vincent cracked two sixes and 14 fours in his 227-ball knock for his second Test century in 13 matches.

Richardson suffered cramps in the later part of his innings but went on to complete his third Test hundred in 26 matches. He has so far hit 14 fours in his 284-ball knock.

It was a forgettable day in the office for Rahul Dravid, leading India for the first time in Test matches after Saurav Ganguly was forced to withdraw following a minor surgery to remove abscess in the groin Nothing went right for Dravid,

who lost an important toss on a good batting pitch and then dropped a regulation catch at first slip to let off Richardson in the opening hour. The batsman was on 10 when he

edged left-arm seamer Zaheer Khan in the slips Things went from bad to worse

Vincent survived a run-out

chance when on 29 as wicketkeeper Parthiv Patel failed to a gather a Dravid throw from short fine-leg, with the batsman's runner Paul Wiseman out of the crease.

The New Zealander batted with the runner for more than an hour after being struck on the leg by a Sachin Tendulkar delivery, but sent Wiseman back to the pavilion after the run-out chance.

Dravid was also let down by his bowlers, who lacked sharpness as

well as direction during the day. India's lone success came in the 80th over when leg-spinner Anil

Kumble trapped Vincent leg-before, but not before the batsman had put his team on course for a big total. Vincent was more enterprising of

the two, reverse-sweeping spinner Harbhajan Singh for a four and then lofting him over long-on for a six to reach his half-century.

SEE PAGE 14 COL 5



PHOTO: AFF

New Zealand opener Lou Vincent (L) jumps for joy after reaching three figures on the first day of the second Test against India in Mohali yesterday.

Smith upbeat for 1st Test

Cricket

AFP/REUTERS, Lahore

Upbeat South African captain Graeme Smith said Wednesday that playing on the sub-continent was a massive challenge for his

"I think playing in the subcontinent is as big a challenge as playing against Australia, and we see this Test series as a massive challenge, purely because the conditions here are tougher," Smith told reporters ahead of the first Test against Pakistan starting here Friday. South Africa ranks second only

to Australia in International Cricket Council Test cricket rankings. Australia has clinched two back-

to-back one-day international World Cup titles in the last four years. "I think the Australians have

taken cricket to new levels which is good for the game of cricket but a lot of other teams are catching up," said Smith, whose side beat Pakistan 3-2 in the one-day international series earlier this week

Smith, 22, became the third oungest captain in Test cricket back double hundreds to chalk

after he surprisingly replaced Shaun Pollock following South Africa's first round exit from World Cup in March. Since then Smith has led the side

to victory in Bangladesh, runners-up place in a three-nation one-day tournament including winner



England and Zimbabwe, and to square a Test series 2-2 in England. "I would like to think when we play next time against Australia we would be able to ... challenge them," said Smith, who hit two back-to-

South Africa's highest Test score of 277 in England. "A lot of teams are going through

rebuilding process but they (Australia) have a settled team which is an advantage," said Smith. "Australians have confidence in

their own ability, they back themselves to win and every time they play, they play it hard, play to win and they have no self doubt," said the South African captain. Smith said his side was confident

after their come-from-behind oneday series win, but warned that Test cricket was a different game. "I think we are very confident but

we are also very humble and realise that it would be a tough Test series." Pakistan looked in disarray after losing the one-day series and their captain Inzamamul Haq due to recurrence of hamstring injury for

the first Test.

"Injuries to key players failed us YOUSUF YOUHANA ... Pak captain in the last three games but it's not a panic situation," said home side coach Javed Miandad.

Pakistan also hopes their standcentury higher. in captain Yousuf Youhana recovers full fitness as he too is carrying a hamstring problem In case Youhana is ruled out,

SEE PAGE 14 COL 1

Sirajganj advance

SPORTS REPORTER

stipulated 50 overs.

Nat'l cricket

Sirajganj moved into the next round of the Emirates 27th National Cricket Championship qualifying phase with a 68-run win over Dinajpur at the Rangpur Stadium yesterday.

Put into bat, Sirajganj scored 133 before being bowled out in 48.3 overs. In reply, Dinajpur were dismissed for 65.

Away in Comilla, Mymensingh defeated Rajbari by 23 runs. Electing to bat, Mymensingh managed 152 for nine in the

In reply, Rajbari were bowled out for 129 in 48.2 overs. In another match, Bangladesh Police outplayed BUET by 138 runs at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium while Nilphamari handed Thakurgaon a nine-wicket defeat at

the Natore Stadium. Habiganj registered a two-wicket win over Moulvibazar at the Sylhet Stadium while Chittagong thrashed Cox's Bazar by nine wickets at the Chandpur Stadium.

In Patuakhali, Barguna earned a walkover against Bhola while Faridpur did the same against Netrokona at the Mymensingh Stadium.

SCORES IN BRIEF Dinajpur v Sirajgani

Venue: Rangpur SIRAJGANJ: 133 all out in 48.3 overs (Liton 35, Shakil 28, Nayeem DINÁJPUR: 65 all out in 25.1 overs

(Hira 14, Shuvo 4-23, Asad 3-16, Milan 2-8) Result: Sirajganj won by 68 runs. SEE PAGE 14 COL 5

'Less variety key to century'

REUTERS, Mohali

New Zealand opener Lou Vincent, who struck a career-best 106 against India on Thursday, said his first Test century in almost two years was the result of cutting down on the variety of strokes he played.

The 24-year-old scored 104 on his Test debut against Australia in Perth back in December 2001 but had failed to get to three figures since. "I've always been seen as a

player with every shot in the book, Vincent told reporters. "But that also gives you several ways to get out. "All through the winter, I worked hard on limiting my shots and on

cutting out certain kinds of strokes from my game so that I could minimise the risk of getting out early." Vincent, dropped for a tour of Sri Lanka in April, said the selectors had told him two months ago to

prepare to open the innings in India. "That gave me a lot of confidence," he said. "I knew what was expected off me. I practiced the sweep shot to counter the spinners. "I get a lot of leaves at home, so

swept them all winter.

with a sweep off leg-spinner Anil Kumble, but was out lbw while trying it once too often against the experienced bowler. While enjoying the innings, Vincent said he rated his debut

Vincent brought up his century

"That one was a special innings because the Australians like to call themselves world champions and it was great to get runs against them in my first Test match," he said.

'English spinners were ordinary'

Cricket

BISHWAJIT ROY

Bangladesh A's hero of the day Nafees Iqbal thought that the England spin attack was at best a moderate one. The Bangladesh under-19

skipper smashed a brilliant 118 for the A team against Michael Vaughan's side on the first day of their three-day match at the BKSP vesterday. "The spinners were quite ordi-

nary," said Nafees when the travel-

ling English media asked him about the tourists' slow bowlers. It was a totally unexpected assertion for the foreign journalists especially as it came from someone so young. Nafees was already the talk of the media after his cracking knock and perhaps stunned by his

English press had the tactlessness

Nafees handled the question with the same composure he displayed while batting and pointed at his cheeks. "Look, my beard is still not fully grown," quipped the talented right-hander amidst a clamour of laughter. "I will celebrate my 19th birthday in March 2004," he assured the English journalists. Nafees said that he didn't feel

of asking what his original age was.

uncomfortable against any English bowler. Although off-spinner Gareth Batty dismissed the century-maker and left-armer Ashley Giles took one wicket, the two had a difficult time against the Bangladesh A batsmen. Even tail-enders Arafat Sunny and Mosaddeg Hossain played them

"It was like a dream come true for me because I got a century against a Test playing nation," said Nafees adding that he was really disappointed with the way he was dis-

SEE PAGE 14 COL 8

Tigers to be named today

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

The 13-member Bangladesh squad for the first Test against England will be announced today. The five-day contest will start at the Bangabandhu National Stadium on October 21.

The Faruque Ahmed-led selection panel will however have an easy task naming the team from the pool of 20 probables. First of all there is little or no

pacer Hasibul Hossain since they are regarded as one-day players. Young Moniruzzaman had a bright prospect but a freakish injury

to his left eye during the first practice

match rules him out of the whole

Then comes reserve wicketkeeper Mohammad Salim. The selectors will definitely keep faith with long-serving Khaled Mashud barring any last minute injury.

The selectors in short-listing the pace options will certainly find Anwar Hossain Munir, Alamgir Kabir and Tareg Aziz Khan not suitable to the conditions at the Bangabandhu National Stadium, which tend to offer spinners more assistance.

So, the selectors are now left with 13 to play with unless they are chance for seven players. To start thinking beyond the initial list. with Tushar Imran and veteran

If things stay as they are then two spinners leggie Mosaddeg Hossain and offie Fahim Muntasir might be awarded Test caps. There is also a

McInnes wins 'em over

SPORTS REPORTER

Life it seems is changing for the better for the under-19 cricketers of the country under their new coach Richard McInnes.

The task-master attitude of the 29-vear-old Australian has impressed his charges although it means adapting to a new way of daily conduct including changing traditional food habits.

"The coach has discouraged us to eat rice although we do get a small amount during dinner. We are mostly eating non-spicy food and drinking a lot of milk," said one

under-19 player yesterday. Unlike many of their seniors who can't even think about eating non-Bangladeshi food for too long, the under-19s are adjusting to McInnes'

demands spontaneously. "We are enjoying it," said another

member of the side. The young cricketers feel that the food habit is helping them make optimum use of their physical abilities. McInnes, who took over the under-19s this month, has also made it mandatory for his boys to carry notebooks to the warm-up games against England for writing

Kallis keen to honour dad

down their personal observations.

REUTERS, Lahore South Africa's Jacques Kallis, wanting to continue a run of good form in honour of his father who died in July, is looking forward to the two-Test series against Pakistan starting

on Friday. "His memories still linger on in the mind," the top all-rounder told this news agency on Thursday.

"It is easier said than done that you get on with life. But I keep on going knowing the old man would have wanted me to go out and perform to the best of my ability for . South Africa."

He added: "I am looking forward to locking horns with the quality Pakistan bowlers.

"You can't count Pakistan out of the series even if they lost the onedayers. They can produce unbeliev SEE PAGE 14 COL 1

PHOTO: STAF



Nafees Iqbal celebrates his century with a sixer off England spinner Gareth Batty at the BKSP yesterday.