



## Did U Know?

When Francesco Totti was caught driving in an emergency lane he thought it was a TV prank because the policeman who stopped him looked like Italian referee Pierluigi Collina.



### Adam Gilchrist

(Australia wicketkeeper)  
"Given the passion for the game both in Australia and India, I think it is a good idea to have a cricket match on this day. It could be an annual affair or once in two years or probably once in four years to start with."

While proposing that the two countries play each other on January 26 in what he said should be called the Waugh-Tendulkar Cup. The 26th of January is India's Republic Day and is also celebrated as Australia Day.



### TEN Sports

Pakistan vs South Africa  
Second Test, Day Five  
Live at 10:30 am

### ESPN

English Premier Football League  
Highlights  
Repeat at 2:30 pm  
Football Focus  
Live at 6:30 pm  
Sportscentre India  
Sport News  
Live at 8:30 pm

### STAR Sports

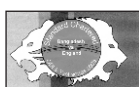
English Premier Football League  
Liverpool vs Leeds United  
Repeat at 12:30 pm  
Sportsline Tonight  
Sport News  
Live at 8:00 pm  
Primera Liga  
Real Madrid vs Zaragoza  
Live at 2:00 am (Wednesday)

**Star WHIZZ KID**  
**OMPETITION 19**  
Tick the correct answers, post to  
**The Daily Star**  
Win attractive prizes  
**Competition closes at 8 pm**  
**Oct 31, 2003 and draw**  
**shortly afterwards**

1. 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	Youshan	Bashar
3. Who became the Pepsi 16th national men's handball champions?	Army	BDR	Navy
4. Who are the European Champions League holders?	Man United	AC Milan	Real
Name			
Class	Roll No.		
School Address			
Phone: (If any)			

# Wicket inspires them

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg



Bangladesh coach Dav Whatmore and captain Khaled Mahmud appeared happy after having a long look at the wicket of the MA Aziz Stadium here on Monday.

The 82nd Test venue of the world will host the second Test against England starting tomorrow.

"The wicket here looks pretty good for batting and we were expecting this kind of pitch," said Mahmud after a three-hour practice session at the second Test venue of the country.

Mahmud's men reached the port city a day after they lost the first Test against England by seven wickets at Dhaka on Saturday.

For Whatmore the trip to Chittagong will be a chance to experience new surroundings. And the inspirational Bangladesh coach was pleased at what he saw in his first visit to the stadium.

"I have never been to this venue. Yet, having a brief view of the whole stadium and the pitch, I should say the facilities here are nice and the wicket is hopefully good," said the

49-year-old.

The Bangladesh squad reached the ground at around 1.30pm. Originally the practice was suppose to take place early in the morning.

"The change was made after most of the players felt tired," said the Bangladesh captain adding that Chittagong experienced a clear blue day yesterday.

Talking to reporters Mahmud said that the team would make every effort to bring consistency in the batting.

Bangladesh struggled in the first innings at the Bangabandhu National Stadium. Although they started reasonably well in their second effort before the wheels fell off on the final day.

But despite the batting inconsistency Mahmud still believed that the team had made a marked improvement in recent times.

"We are showing improvement with every Test we are playing. Now we need to instill some mental toughness into our game."

He hoped that Bangladesh would continue to show the fighting spirit.

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PHOTO: ZOBAER HOSSAIN SIKDER

A HELPING HAND: Bangladesh coach Dav Whatmore lends the groundstaff a hand to rearrange the nets during a practice session at the MA Aziz Stadium in Chittagong yesterday.

## ACC U-19 tournament

# Boys go to Pakistan today



SPORTS REPORTER

A 14-member Bangladesh Under-19 team leaves here for Pakistan tonight to take part in the Asian Cricket Council Under-19 Tournament that starts in Lahore on October 31.

Led-by talented right-handed opener Nafees Iqbal, the Bangladesh side start their campaign on the opening day against hosts Pakistan.

Nafees' uncle and former national skipper Akram Khan will accompany the youth side as manager.

Off-spinner Kamrul Islam was the

last minute inclusion into the team as senior selection committee decided to retain the services of left-arm slow bowler Enamul Haq jr. for the second Test to be held in Chittagong.

After spending five days with the young boys and watching them closely at BKSP, manager Akram Khan believed that the Bangladesh side would put up a better show than they did on any other previous

occasion.

"I was impressed by the attitude of the players. They are very much positive and that's why I am hopeful that the boys will play good cricket on the tour," said the former captain, who led the national side to ICC Trophy glory.

The right-handed middle-order batsman was also impressed with the way new coach Richard McInnes was supervising the country's upcoming cricketers.

"I have talked to the coach many a time during the last five days. Boys are very much happy with their new coach and they had been working hard under his guidance for last three weeks," Akram said.

Meanwhile, it is going to be

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PHOTO: STAR

Bangladesh team members warm up before the start of their training session in Chittagong yesterday.

## Ganguly to play last 2 matches

AFP, New Delhi

India's injured cricket captain Saurav Ganguly said on Monday he hoped to play in the last two league matches of the current one-day series against New Zealand and Australia.

"I am determined to play in the series but there is little chance of making an immediate return," he said after being discharged from a Calcutta hospital on Sunday night.

Ganguly, who underwent two surgeries to remove an abscess from boils in the groin area, missed the second Test against New Zealand at Mohali and the first two one-dayers.

The Indian captain will also skip the November 1 match against Australia at Bombay and the November 6 game against the Kiwis at Cuttack.

Ganguly was, however, hopeful of playing in the last two matches of the triple-leg preliminary round against Australia at Bangalore on November 12 and against New Zealand at Hyderabad three days later besides the November 18 final at Calcutta if India qualified.

# India want fresh Pakistan plan



REUTERS, Faisalabad

India has requested a new itinerary for next year's Test series in Pakistan which will be their first full tour of the country since 1989.

"The Indian board wants us to send them a fresh itinerary since the Indian team would be in Australia until February 14," Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) chief executive Rameez Raja told Reuters on Monday.

"They want a 10-day rest period for their players before coming to Pakistan. We will be finalising the fresh itinerary very soon," he said.

The Indian government decided last week to restore full sporting ties with Pakistan, including bilateral cricket which has been suspended

since 2000 due to tensions over the disputed Himalayan region of Kashmir.

Since then, they have met at the Asia Cup in Bangladesh and the World Cup in South Africa.

BBC Online adds, a spokesman for the PCB said: "The previous itinerary gives the Indian team a very brief break from the tour to Australia."

The Indian government had long said its policy of disallowing national teams to play Pakistan would continue until cross-border violence ended.

The initial tour itinerary for what will be a historic series proposed three Tests and seven one-day internationals in February and March 2004.

Now it just requires some fine tweaking and according to initial proposals, the tour to Pakistan

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## Shantoo's bigger mission

SPORTS REPORTER

The management committee of Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) yesterday extended the contract of coach Shahidur Rahman Shatoo for a year.

It was reward for the former national custodian's successful stint with the Bangladesh Under-17 team. He led the juvenile team to the AFC Under-17 finals in Japan next September with a 3-0 aggregate win over Kyrgyzstan at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur earlier this month.

Now living in the United States, Shantoo initially signed a three-month contract with the BFF on August 13. But his good work prompted the BFF to assign him a tougher mission.

Shantoo will fly to America in the first week of next month to spend some time with his family. After coming back he will take over as Bangladesh Under-23 coach for the SAF Games to be held in Pakistan next March.

The management committee led by Kazi Salahuddin also decided to start the camp for the 2006 World Cup qualifiers early next month.

The committee named Golam Sarwar Tipu and Mahmudul Haq Liton to supervise the national camp, which will start with 30 players.

"We will allow the players to take part in the Federation Cup for their respective clubs only on match days," said secretary of the committee Syed Hasan Kannan.

Bangladesh will open their World Cup qualifying campaign against Tajikistan sometime in November.

## Swati's first draw

SPORTS REPORTER

Swati Gbate of India maintained her solo lead in the women's group of the Asian Zonal Chess Championship with a draw against compatriot Arati in the fifth round at the NSC yesterday.

The draw raised the Indian WGM's points tally to 4.5 from five games, one point clear of compatriots Minakshi and Esha.

Minakshi defeated Bangladesh's Shabana Parveen Nipa in this round. Esha on the other hand won her board against Nisha.

Meanwhile, the men's competition also got underway yesterday.

IM Enamul Hossain Rajib of Bangladesh beat Amir Karim of Pakistan while top-seed Indian GM Pentala Harikrishna drew with compatriot GM Avijit Kunte.

In another match, Indian IM Tejas Bakre also drew with his compatriot Kidambi.

Three other matches between GM Niaz Murshed and Nepal's Krishna Thapa, GM Ziaur Rahman and Sri Lanka Shebanathan and IM Reefat-bin-Sattar against Indian GM SS Ganguly were in progress till late last night.

# Eng spin over bowling

YAHOO SPORT, undated



England flew to Chittagong on Monday considering their slow bowling options for the second Test having been quietly impressed with the standard of opposition provided by Bangladesh.

The tourists completed a seven-wicket victory to claim a 1-0 lead in the two-match series on Saturday but they were tested enough over the five days to suggest that Bangladesh's wait for the first triumph at this level may not be long in coming.

The Bangladesh batsmen certainly handled England's spinners effectively enough with Ashley Giles finishing with only one wicket in the match while otherwise impressive debutant Gareth Batty claimed two.

Their failure to make more of an impact at the National Stadium has prompted England to consider using

an extra seamer Richard Johnson or Martin Saggars even though they will almost certainly play two spinners in the Test series in Sri Lanka which follows.

But coach Duncan Fletcher insisted they will not be using Wednesday's second Test as practice for the challenges ahead this winter.

He said: "We have to go and win a Test match. England have only just beaten Samoa in the rugby union World Cup so that shows you can't treat anyone lightly we want to win the Test in Chittagong and we have to go into it like we would for any other Test match."

"We can't go in there with arrogance thinking we can treat it as a net practice just to get us ready for something else."

Fletcher stressed: "We didn't under-estimate Bangladesh like most people. We looked at their results against Australia and

## Nat'l cricket final phase in limbo

SPORTS REPORTER

With the qualifying round of the Emirates 27th National Cricket Championship over on Saturday, the organisers are yet to decide when they will start the final round.

They have cited two reasons for delaying an announcement -- weather and venue.

Although the tournament committee of the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) has split 13 teams into four groups for the robin league and decided to hold matches at two venues outside the capital, they have only confirmed Mymensingh for holding Group A and C games.

But the tournament committee has so far failed to confirm where Groups B and D would play.

"We wanted to make Comilla a venue, but that won't be possible because they will have to host matches of the visiting CAB under-17 team. Again Sylhet wants to become venue provided that their team is allowed to play there," said BCB advisor and tournament committee chairman Shah Nurul Kabir Shaheen MP yesterday.

He said that they haven't accepted Sylhet's proposal and

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# Fascinating final day



REUTERS, Faisalabad

Gary Kirsten hit his 19th Test century on Monday as South Africa set Pakistan a target of 302 runs to win the second Test.

With the hosts already 1-0 up in the two-match series, Pakistan ended the fourth day on eight without loss in six overs and needing another 294 runs.

South Africa had declared their second innings after tea on 371 for eight, Kirsten's sparkling 118 runs from 232 balls and in 316 minutes (11 fours and one six) bringing them back into the match.

Taufeeq Umar and Imran Farhat, who have posted three successive century stands for Pakistan in the series, held firm before bad light forced play to end four overs early and left the match intriguingly poised.

South Africa, who won a Test in Pakistan at the same ground in 1997 by bowling out the home side for 92 runs, will be spurred on by the knowledge that Pakistan's highest successful victory chase at the venue was just 188 for seven against Sri Lanka in 1991-92.

Pakistan lost here to the Sri Lankans in 1995-96 after being bowled out for 209 runs while chasing a victory target of 252.

It was Kirsten's second century on this ground and allowed South Africa to dictate terms on a sluggish day of cricket. Pakistan did not take the second new ball and bowled 127.3 overs with the same ball.

It slowed the scoring rate on a day when Pakistan's bowlers also struggled with fitness problems.

Leg-spinner Danish Kaneria did the bulk of the work with 27 consecutive overs, in contrast to veteran leg spinner Mushtaq Ahmed who bowled just four overs and Abdul Razzaq, who was not introduced

until the 58th over of the day.

He responded by taking three wickets.

Struggling with a bout of 'flu, Razzaq rattled the Proteas with two wickets in two balls.

On the second and third balls of his fourth over of the day, he had Kirsten caught in the slips by Umar and then bowled Boucher.

Kirsten resumed in the morning on 27, with South Africa on 140 for three.

He played a flawless innings and shared valuable stands of 90 with Jacques Kallis (43, 113 balls, 3 fours), a new record for the fifth wicket against Pakistan, and 85 from 211 balls with Neil McKenzie (35) before lunch.

The 35-year-old left hander, who carried his bat for 100 not out at this ground in 1997, completed 1,000 runs on the subcontinent in 10 Tests against Pakistan and India.

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PHOTO: AFP

Gary Kirsten of South Africa square cuts Pakistan spinner Shoaib Malik (not in picture) on way to scoring a hundred on the fourth day of the second Test in Faisalabad yesterday.