



## Did U Know?

Pele real name has nothing to do with Pele, his real name is Addison Arantes



**Syed Kirmani**  
(Indian cricket chief selector)  
"I have always tried to give my best in all assignments given to me in the past. I will try to do my best."



### BTV

Bangladesh vs England  
Second Test, Day One  
Live at 9:30 am

### DD Sports

TVS Cup Triangular Series  
Australia vs New Zealand  
Live at 9:30 am

### ESPN

Football Focus  
Repeat at 8:00 am  
Sportscentre India  
Sport News  
Live at 8:30 pm

### STAR Sports

Bangladesh vs England  
Second Test, Day One  
Live at 9:30 am  
Sportsline Tonight  
Sport News  
Live at 8:00 pm

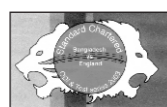


Tick the correct answers, post to  
**The Daily Star**  
Win attractive prizes  
Competition closes at 8 pm  
Oct 31, 2003 and draw  
shortly afterwards

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	Youshana Bashir
3. Who became the Pepsi 16th national men's and women's champions?	Army	BDR
4. Who are the European Champions League holders?	Man United	AC Milan Real
Name .....		
Class .....	Roll No. ....	
School Address .....		
Phone: (if any) .....		

# Rain follows England

SHAHIDUL ISLAM, Chittagong



If the latest weather forecast proves correct, then the second Test between Bangladesh and England in all probability will get off to a damp start at MA Aziz Stadium today. The news from the local met office was not very encouraging yesterday. And a 30-minute shower over the port city raised prospects among the local cricket fans that it would be a rain-affected first day just like it was in Dhaka in the first Test, which the tourists won by seven wickets. "A deep depression is prevailing at the central bay since Monday afternoon and authorities in Chittagong, Cox's Bazar and Mongla ports have been asked to hoist signal no.3," said Rasheduzzaman, the duty forecast officer, while talking to this correspondent on Tuesday. He added the distance of the depression was 910km from Chittagong Port and moving to the

west and northwestern route. "Chittagong sky might remain overcast or partly cloudy on Wednesday and rain might also fall due to the depression," Rashed added.

Local cricket organisers also expressed their anxiety over the state of the weather ahead of their first major international engagements since the visit of South Africa seven months ago.

"It will be a real shocker if rain falls tomorrow. Hopefully, the sky will be clear and fine and people here enjoy an excellent game of cricket," said Ali Abbas, secretary of the Chattagram Jela Krira Sangstha (CJKS) cricket committee. The prospect of a rainy Test already has had a bearing in the sale of tickets, which started from stadium counters a day before the Test.

Understandably there was hardly any rush for tickets. In fact, the people operating the booths were busier gossiping to kill time. The CJKS had released 10,000 tickets per day for the Test. But if the

sun shines today crowds will flock to the country's second Test venue and watch Khaled Mahmud's men in action.

Meanwhile, our sports reporter in Dhaka adds: Exciting England all-rounder Andrew Flintoff will arrive in the capital today along with six other one-day specialists to join the English lions for the three-match limited-overs series.

Apart from Flintoff, who missed the Test leg of the tour due to a last-minute injury, the others players flew into the city are Ian Blackwell, James Kirtley, Anthony McGrath, Vikram Solanki, Andrew Strauss and James Anderson.

The seven players are likely to stay in the capital until the England team returns from Chittagong on November 3.

On the other hand Mark Butcher, Stephen Harmison, Nasser Hussain, Matthew Hoggard, Geraint Jones, Graham Thorpe and Martin Suggs will return home after the Test series is over.



PHOTO: AFP

BALANCING ACT: Bangladesh captain Khaled Mahmud tries to balance the ball during a practice session at the MA Aziz Stadium yesterday.



PHOTO: ZOBAER HOSSAIN SIKDER

LET'S USE OUR HEADS: England left-arm spinner Ashley Giles (L) watches two teammates playing with a football at the MA Aziz Stadium yesterday.

# Pakistan hold on for draw



AFP, Faisalabad

Pakistan salvaged a hard-fought draw to win the series against South Africa 1-0 at Iqbal stadium here Tuesday after opener Taufeeq Umar and skipper Inzamam-ul Haq hit much-needed half centuries.

On a tension-packed fifth and

final day Pakistan made 242-6 to ensure a draw two overs before the scheduled close of play. The 1-0 win is Pakistan's first series win over South Africa in four attempts after losing two and drawing one.

Chasing 302 to win, the home team's early slow progress coupled with a lack of bite in the South African attack suggested a draw. But in the last session both teams pressed for victory.

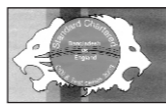
However, in a dramatic turn around the Proteas claimed two quick wickets with the second new ball and had Gary Kirsten not dropped Shoaib Malik off Makhaya Ntini with Pakistan 219-6, South Africa could have pulled off a win.

In the end Moin Khan, scoring just nine off 46 balls, and Malik, who added 23, ensured South Africa failed in their bid to force a win.

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# SERIES SALAD

RABEED IMAM from Chittagong



England captain Michael Vaughan is already in love with picturesque Chittagong.

"Chittagong is magnificent," exclaimed Vaughan when someone asked him about his first impression of the port city.

Indeed, after the hustle and bustle and pollution of Dhaka, Chittagong offers a sense of serenity.

The roads have far less traffic, are remarkably cleaner than the capital and the city of course is more blessed with natural assets and delightful architecture of the British era.

The MA Aziz Stadium also maintains the same tranquility.

There are no shops to muddle through and no unnecessary gathering. Inside, the outfield is lush green and the wicket believe it or not, has grass!

And just to add to the occasion, there is the sudden soothing rain.

No wonder Vaughan is impressed.

English fan injured?

A group of sports journalists on their way to Chittagong by a luxury coach to cover the second Test match were shaken up by some tragic scenes near Comilla early Tuesday.

Their coach was stopped by injured victims of an accident that had occurred minutes earlier when an air-conditioned coach of Shohag Paribahan fell into a roadside ditch.

Although it could not be verified, passengers and eyewitnesses claimed a travelling English fan was among the injured.

A better wicket

As is usual in any pre-Test situation, the pitch is at the centre of attention for both England and Bangladesh.

With home skipper Khaled Mahmud and his England counterpart Michael Vaughan under the impression that the track might be conducive to pace bowling, curator of the MA Aziz Stadium Nurul Abedin Nobel didn't beg to differ.

"It won't turn as much as it did in Dhaka. It's going to be a wicket with even bounce. It also won't start getting lower and lower like the Bangabandhu National Stadium pitch," said the former national cricketer.

Nobel informed that they have begun nurturing the track three months ago with this Test in mind.

Two fasting tigers

With the first day of the holy month of Ramadan passing yesterday, Bangladesh players Rajin Saleh and Enamul Haque Junior decided to mark it in true spirit by fasting.

The team had their Iftar at the Hotel Agrabad, their home for the next couple of weeks.

# Kiwis minus Cairns



AFP, Faridabad

New Zealand's inspirational all-rounder Chris Cairns will miss Wednesday's limited-overs match against world champions Australia here due to a hamstring injury.

Cairns, who strained his left hamstring during the washed-out tri-series opener against India at

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PHOTO: STAR

Bangladesh all-rounder Mushfiqur Rahman sends down a delivery in the nets on Tuesday.

# Indians rule the board

SPORTS REPORTER

Indian Grand Master (GM) Surya Shekhar Ganguly earned solo lead in the men's division of the Asian Zonal Chess Championship when he defeated his Bangladesh counterpart GM Niaz Murshed at the NSC conference room yesterday.

It was Ganguly's second successive victory that raised his tally to full two points, half a point clear from Bangladesh's International Master Enamul Hossain Rajib and two Indian GMs Harikrishna and Avijit Kunte.

Rajib, who won his opening match against Amir Karim of Pakistan on Monday night, drew his second game with Indian Kidamvi yesterday.

Harikrishna on the other hand won the all-Indian affair against



PHOTO: STAR

Indian Nishi Mehta (L) and Zenobia of Pakistan are engaged in a cerebral warfare during their sixth round game in the Asian Zonal Chess Championship at the NSC yesterday.

# BFF grumbles over ground Fed Cup begins tomorrow



SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) expressed its disappointment over the lack of a proper venue to hold the domestic competitions.

This was the sentiment of the BFF officials during a press briefing arranged two days before kick-off of the season's curtain-rising event Federation Cup at the NSC Conference Room yesterday.

"We are not at all satisfied to start such a prestigious tournament at Kamalapur Stadium which is quite frankly a sub-standard venue," said BFF general secretary Anwarul Haq

Helal.

The meet will start at the newly built stadium on Thursday with season's sensation Brothers Union taking on Dipali Jubo Sangha.

But Helal told reporters the facilities and the ground was not ideal for holding such competitive matches.

BFF president SA Sultan also voiced his concern over the venue. He said that they were really facing problem adjusting to the stadium after leaving the all-purpose Bangabandhu National Stadium to the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB).

"Actually we made the sacrifice for cricket," Sultan said.

Apart from the venue issue the BFF has another problem to solve before the start of the tournament.

The federation was yet to fix the prize money for the winners.

"We will take a decision after the first round," Sultan informed.

The briefing was also attended by senior vice-president of sales and marketing of the sponsors Kahinor Chemical Company Jafar Ahmed.

Tournament secretary Anwar Hossain Ujjal said that the sponsors would provide Tk 8 lakh out of a total budget Tk 11.41 lakh.

A total of 21 teams split into two groups are competing in the knock-out first phase. Top two finishers from each group will join the four semifinalists of last season -- Mohammedan, Muktijoddha, Abahani and Dhanmondi-- in the

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