



## Did U Know?

In the 1948 Olympics, the US won every event in the swimming competition.



**Khaled Mahmud**  
(Bangladesh cricket captain)  
"I have no grudge against the cricket fans since I know how they feel."  
On the crowd's increasing frustration with his performances.



**DD Sports**  
TVS Cup Triangular Series Final  
India vs Australia  
Live at 3:00 pm  
**TEN Sports**  
Sri Lanka vs England  
First ODI  
Live at 2:00 pm  
**ESPN**  
Football Focus  
Live at 6:30 pm  
Sportscentre Hindi  
Sport News  
Live at 8:30 pm  
**STAR Sports**  
Sportsline Tonight  
Sport News  
Live at 8:00 pm

**Star WHIZZ KID COMPETITION 201**  
Tick the correct answers, post to  
**The Daily Star**  
Win attractive prizes  
Competition closes at 8 pm  
Dec 5, 2003 and draw

- How many runs did Bangladesh score against England in the last ODI?  
143    190    182
- Who is the International Cricket Council (ICC) president?  
Malcolm Speed    Ali Asghar    Ehsan Mani
- Who became Asian Under-19 cricket champions?  
Pakistan    Bangladesh    India
- Who clinched the women's title in the Asian Zonal Chess?  
.....

Name .....

Class .....

School Address .....

Phone: (if any) .....

## Ali selection chess champ

**SPORTS REPORTER**  
National junior champion Mohammad Ali clinched the Metropolitan Selection Chess tournament title with 8.5 points after the end of the last round games at the NSC yesterday.  
Nure Alam became runner-up with 8 points.  
Top 16 players qualified for the preliminary phase of the 30th National Chess Championship.  
In the last round games, Ali beat Rocket, Alam beat Saiful, Taher beat Dinayet, Utan beat Mujib, Rashed beat Hanif, Shahajan beat Saleheen, Shabin beat Shahid, Siddique beat Amir Ali, Afjal drew with Pintu, Sumon drew with Zahid, Amir drew with Shamim and Chapalgot walkover against Kajoj.

# All happening derby

## Four-up Mohammedan

**SPORTS REPORTER**

It was a rare goal rush in the battle of giants at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday. As many as seven goals were scored in 90 minutes with Mohammedan Sporting Club prevailing by the odd goal over perennial foes Abahani Krira Chakra.

The victory took Mohammedan into Friday's final of the Tibet 19th Federation Cup football tournament. The black and whites will take on the winners of today's second semifinal between Muktiyoddha Sangsad Krira Chakra and Sheikh Russel Krira Chakra.

It was disappointing for the loyal band of Mohammedan supporters not to see any of the club's five Cameroon recruits in action. But by the time referee Tayeb Hasan blew the first half whistle their disappointment turned into delight as Mohammedan marched into a 4-1 lead.

When play resumed after the break desperation took over the sky blues and they could succeed to pull off two goals, but failed to avoid a third defeat in the past few months.

Striker Amin Rana, new find Khokon Das, midfielder Kaiser and a vastly improved Rashed Pappu scored for Mohammedan.

Abahani had to rely on a double strike from Saiful Islam Khokon after Abdullah Parvez produced the goal of

the game early in the first half. Although the goals came thick and fast, it was never a thrill-spill encounter that is normally associated with a Dhaka derby. It may have been a battle-royal on paper but the brand of football was as low as the presence of the crowd. Traditionally an Abahani-Mohammedan match is a sell out, but on Monday there was hardly three thousand interested football fans present to cheer both sides.

The remarkable feature of the game was the inept display under the posts by either Abahani custodian Nizam Mojumder or Mohammedans reserve keeper Milon.

Out of the seven goals, the majority was due to goal-keeping errors and Abahani may have suffered more than their rivals did. It was not clear what was wrong with Nizam, who did a splendid job for Mohammedan last year. The otherwise reliable custodian was very nervous playing for Abahani in the big match. His poor keeping only vindicated why Abahani were desperate to capture the signature of number one goalkeeper Aminul in the transfers this year.

Abahani had a foretaste that it was not going to be their day when a ninth minute effort from Pranotosh ballooned off the crossbar.

But Mohammedan hardly needed to break into a sweat when a feeble shot by Amin Rana in the 13th minute rolled into the net with Nizam too far forward to react.

The scoreline was levelled when Parvez let loose a spectacular side volley past a bemused Mohammedan custodian Milon after a Sandro freekick came off the wall in the 24th minute.

But it took two minutes for the popular Motijheel outfit to regain the lead thanks to another silly mistake by Nizam, who failed to hold on to an innocuous Farhad header, and Khokon Das taped the loose ball home.

The Abahani keeper was a mere onlooker when Kaiser had the easiest job to place the ball into the empty in the 35th minute to give Mohammedan a 3-1 lead.

After conceding the third goal Abahani withdrew Nizam for Munna. But the substitution did not save Abahani from further embarrassment.

Pappu welcomed the new keeper with an unstoppable right-footer from outside the box in the 44th minute and it put Mohammedan beyond reach.

The defending champions came close to setting a new scoring record against their arch-rivals when Farhad fired a fierce left-footer in the 12th minute after the break, but the woodwork saved Abahani's blushes. Mohammedan holds the distinction of defeating Abahani 4-0 in a League match way back in 1975.

Despite trailing by 4-1 at the half-way mark, Abahani refused to lie down and they took the attack to the opposition as the game wore on. The

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Rashed Kanchan Pappu (in the foreground) is ecstatic while teammates Amin Rana (L) and Bakhtiar rush in to celebrate with him after he scored the fourth Mohammedan goal against Abahani in the Federation Cup semifinal at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

# Abahani's day to forget

**SPORTS REPORTER**

Mirpur has traditionally been a home ground for Abahani and majority of the 3000-odd supporters present at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium yesterday were there to cheer the sky blues.

So it was understandable when they lost their composure after their beloved team went down 3-4 to bitter foes Mohammedan Sporting Club in the first semifinal of the Tibet Federation Cup.

The match was as good as over by half-time with Mohammedan racing to a 4-1 lead. That was more than good enough reason for the Abahani fans to go wild. They threw brickbats at their own reserve players who were warming up on the touchline and a rock hit manager Monem Munna on the back of the head.

Munna was delivering half-time pep talk at that time.

Thankfully, the injury was not too serious and Munna took his position on the team bench in the second half with a bandage wrapped around his head after being attended by the club's doctor.

Munna, who has seen his fair share of similar fan outbursts during his playing days, took the incident in his stride.

"The team was losing 4-1 and I fully understand the sentiment of the supporters. They love football and their club. I'm sure they didn't target me," said Munna.

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'I'LL SEE YOU! Abahani's Arif Khan Joy (L) restraining a furious Alessandro Pedrosa after the end of their match against Mohammedan. The Brazilian player was fuming after being taunted by an Abahani supporter.

PHOTO: STAR

# Kiwi tour put back

## Injury sidelines Fleming

**Cricket**

**AFP, Karachi**  
Pakistan cricket chiefs on Monday agreed to New Zealand's request to postpone the upcoming one-day series by a week, raising hopes the troubled tour will finally take place.

The tour, which was scheduled to begin on Thursday, ran into trouble over security fears which led to four New Zealand players, Lou Vincent, Craig McMillan, Scott Styris and Ian Butler opting out.

Captain Stephen Fleming dealt a further blow when he too withdrew from the five-match series on Monday due to an abdominal injury.

But Pakistan officials said they had received a request from New Zealand Cricket (NZC) to postpone the series by a week, and immediately agreed to the proposal.

"We have proposed a revised itinerary to the NZC, who wanted its players to have a sufficient gap after the Indian tour," Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB)

spokesman Samiul Hasan told AFP.

New Zealand ended a seven-week tour to India on Saturday after failing to qualify for the final of the limited-overs TVS Cup tri-series that also featured world champions Australia.

New Zealand will now be required



STEPHEN FLEMING

to arrive in Pakistan on November 27 instead of November 20, according to

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# A team's 15 picked

**SPORTS REPORTER**

The national selectors have finalised a 15-man Bangladesh A team that will take part in the Patron's Trophy first class competition in Pakistan next month.

The second string national side will leave for Pakistan on November 28 and play their first match from December 1-5.

Eight of the cricketers will however, return home in the last week of December to join the Tigers camp for the tour of Zimbabwe that will start on January 3. According to a reliable Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) source, the eight are Hannan Sarkar, Moniruzzaman, Alok Kapali, Rajin Saleh, Mushfiqur Rahman, Manjarul Islam, Jamaluddin and Anwar Hossain Munir.

The cricketers who will stay back are Mohammad Ashraf, Ehsanul Haque, Shahriar Hossain, Alamgir Kabir, Tareq Aziz Khan, Mohammad Salim (wicketkeeper) and Mosaddek Hossain. Replacements for the returning players will be picked from 11 probables whose names have been announced on Saturday.

The 15, who will travel to Pakistan at first, begin their training under national coach Dav What-more at the Bangabandhu National Stadium from today. The remaining players will start their practice from December 5.

The BCB is yet to appoint a coach or a captain for the A team but chairman cricket committee Mahub Anam said yesterday that they would name them within the next few days. Although Whatmore will supervise the camp initially, he will not accompany the team to Pakistan.

# Winning is everything

**AFP, Wellington**

A survey of New Zealanders' attitude to sport, released Monday just two days after the All Blacks were bundled out of the rugby World Cup, has found 73 per cent of the population believes winning international sporting events is important.

For 53 per cent, winning a World Cup, such as those for rugby or cricket, were most important.

New Zealand has been in mourning since the team they believed to be invincible was beaten by Australia in the rugby World Cup semifinal.

The survey was conducted by the government agency Sport and Recreation New Zealand before the World Cup to see if it was investing in events in which the public wanted to see results.

One of the country's most outstanding sporting achievers this year is Russell Coutts who won yachting's prized America's Cup but to the chagrin of many New Zealanders he led the Swiss challenge which won the trophy from New Zealand.

# A different Bashar

## Comilla meet Biman in final

**Cricket**

**SPORTS REPORTER**

Habibul Bashar might have been a failure in the recently concluded home series against England. But the top batsman of the country playing in an unlikely position, made a match-winning contribution as Comilla upset fancied Chittagong in the second semifinal of the Emirates 27th National Cricket Championship yesterday.

Batting at number five, Bashar scored a patient 46 not out of 95 balls to propel Comilla to a five-wicket win at the Mymensingh Stadium. It was a low-scoring affair where batting was extremely difficult with the ball coming below the knee.

Opener Hannan Sarker with 20 was

Comilla will take on defending champions Bangladesh Biman in Thursday's final at the Bangabandhu National Stadium.

Sent into bat, the star-studded Chittagongian were bundled out for 124 in 45.1 overs. Comilla also struggled before eventually reaching home with Bashar playing a completely different innings.

It was not a typically aggressive innings from the right-hander. He struck just four boundaries in his 117-minute vigil at the wicket.

Together with veteran left arm spinner Enamul Hoque, Bashar put on a valuable 43 for the fourth wicket after Comilla were reduced 43-3.

Enamul graded his way to 28 without hitting a single boundary.

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the other notable run-getter for the winners.

Earlier, Chittagong tumbled despite the presence of Alok Kapali, Khaled Mashud and Tapash Kumar Baisya. Former national captain Akram Khan, national discard Al-Shahriar and promising under-19 player Arafat Sunny also featured in the port city line-up.

Wicketkeeper Khaled Mashud, who led his home side in the National League, top-scored with 26 for Chittagong.

Azam Iqbal and Al-Shahriar made 21 and 17 respectively.

However, Kapali's poor run of form continued. The Sylhet right-hander scored only two while fellow

# WC final or a reversal?

**Cricket**

**AFP, Calcutta**

India will be keen to bury the World Cup ghost when they clash with Australia in the triangular TVS Cup one-day cricket series final at Eden Gardens here on Tuesday.

Ricky Ponting's Australians have been virtually unbeatable in all conditions since thrashing India by 125 runs in the World Cup final in South Africa in March.

Australia's solid all-round performance neutralised India's home advan-

tage as they whipped the hosts twice in three league matches of the tri-series which also featured New Zealand.

"We don't want to look back, but it'll be nice to repeat the Wanderers performance," Australian vice-captain Adam Gilchrist said, referring to the Cup final at Johannesburg.

"Our goal was to qualify for the final here. We've achieved it and it'll be disappointing if we don't win now. We're focussed on winning the final."

Australia showed tremendous depth in the tournament, winning five of their six league matches despite missing fast bowlers Glenn McGrath, Jason

Gillespie, Brett Lee and Shane Warne.

Even the back-up pacemen Nathan Bracken and Brad Williams proved too hot to handle for both India and Stephen Fleming's New Zealand on low and slow Indian pitches.

India's major worry is containing Matthew Hayden and Gilchrist, a destructive pair of openers who have often taken the game away from the opposition with their hard and clean hitting.

Saurav Ganguly's team has already faced the Australian openers' fury at the Wanderers and then

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PICTURE TELLS THE STORY: The Abahani camp on the touchline of the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium after their defeat to arch-rivals Mohammedan.

PHOTO: STAR