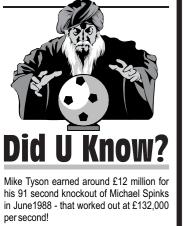


DHAKA SUNDAY DECEMBER 14, 2003, E-MAIL: dssports@gononet.com







Inzamamul Haq

(Pakistan cricket captain) "Playing in New Zealand under different conditions will not be easy, but my players have the capability and resolve to perform success-fully"



TEN Sports Sri Lanka vs England Second Test, Day Five

South Africa vs West Indies First Test, Day Three Live at 2:27 pm English Premier Football League Leeds United vs Fulhan

Second Test, Day Three Live at 6:30 am Primera Liga Celta De Vigo vs Atletico Madrid

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

Defending champions Khulna and Chittagong joined Dhaka at the top f Mirzapore Tea Fifth National Cricket League table with outright victories against their respective opponents at different venues cross the country yesterday.

Khulna ambled to a 76-run ctory over Sylhet at the Sylhet Stadium when spinner Tahmim Bashir broke the last wicket pair by removing national right-arm paceman Tapash Baisya in the sixth over of the day.

Chittagong on the other hand thumped down an eight-wicket defeat on Rajshahi at the Comilla Stadium thanks to a blazing nbeaten 65 by Faisal Hossain.

Faisal, one of the two sensational finds for the port city this ear, finished off the chase in style after Rajshahi set Chittagong an easy target of 129 runs for the win on the fourth and final day. Dhaka had already scored an

spectators' delight. With Faisal blazing guns,

England stare at defeat

Easy wins for Khulna, Ctg

Friday in the six-team meet.

CHITTAGONG

Comilla when the unheralded

right-hander struck a 41-ball 65

that included three massive sixes

and nine savage hits across the

unbeaten 99 while batting at num-

Faisal did not disappoint his

captain and, batting at number

three, he scored even more freely. If

his first-innings exploit gave Chittagong the advantage over

Rajshahi, his second essay was a

today

rope

ber six.

RAJSHAHI

empathic innings and 63-run victory over Barisal at the Chittagong reached the target in only 26.3 overs. Opener Anisul Hakim contributed 37 to the win-Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium on ningtotal The same opponents now face

The Faisal thunder completely overshadowed a gritty knock from Rajshahi skipper Khaled Mashud off in the limited-overs games of the meet at their respective venues earlier in the day.

The national wicketkeeper v scored a 139-ball 59 in Rajshahi's second innings effort of 196. But it Nickname Dickens, Faisal wrote gave the tourists a paltry 128-run another classic masterpiece at

Resuming the day on 129-6 for six, Rajshahi's hopes of posting a big lead revolved round Mashud. But he could only take his overnight score of 28 to a defiant half-Chittagong captain Akram Khan promoted Faisal up in the batting order after his first-innings effort of century before being dismissed by sensational off-spinner Yasin Arafat.

The debutant Yasin, who hit the headlines after taking seven wickets in the first-innings, eventually finished with a match haul of 9 149. He was later adjudged manof-the-match.

the fourth wicket with

fourth wicket against England was 148 between Sidhath Wettimuny

and Arjuna Ranatunga at Lord's in

Dilshan, 27, was in command from the beginning as he drove and cut vigorously to reach his half-

He played a key role in bolster-

ing the innings after Sri Lanka had

slipped from their overnight total

of 39-1 to 53-3 early in the morning

Dilshan fell immediately after

Vaas each contributed 20

century off just 61 balls.

Sri Lanka's previous best for the

Jayawardene (52).

Right-arm seamer Gazi Alamgin claimed three wickets conceding

SEE PAGE 14 COL 2

1-dayers first! Love-lorn Reds

The tournament committee of the

Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) is planing to start second round matches of the Mirzapore Tea Fifth National Cricket League with the one-dayers instead of four-day games.

"We sent a proposal to the cricket committee about the mat-Muktijoddha Sangsad Krira Chakra ter," said member secretary of the tournament committee Adnan Rahman Dipon yesterday.

He said the reason for the slight adjustment in the format was because most players found it difficult to adjust mentally. "And if we do change the com-

petition it will definitely be more competitive," he added.

BD A team open today **SPORTS REPORTER**

Karachi National Stadium. Mushfiqur Rahman's men take on Defence Housing Authority (DHA) in the 50-over contest of the

pionship (Patron's Trophy and Patron's Cup). Tomorrow both

help them name the 15 players who will go to Zimbabwe in February.

Pakistan are appearing in the final round, divided into two groups.

Limited (PTCL).

Group B comprises Agriculture

Hossain.

Graeme not after marks **REUTERS**, Johannesburg

still cannot compete with rivals Mohammedan or Abahani in terms of fan numbers. Still the club to its credit managed to break the long-standing

Football

HASAN MASOOD

two-team monopoly that existed in domestic football until 1994 by clinching the Federation Cup.

Despite being one of the most

successful clubs in the country

Since their emergence Muktijo ddha have gone on to add three Fed Cups, lifted the Premier League championship twice and in Septem-ber they ended Mohammedan's reign as National Football League holders.

But in the same month the Reds also became depleted after household names like Rajani, Sujon, Arman, Alfaz, Rakib and Biplab all departed during the inter-club players' transfer. However, they still managed to retain Bangladesh

custodian Aminul following a ble of winning titles, said Manik titanic struggle with Abahani referring to the recent Federation Cup success.

One wondered if losing so many "I think every club wants to win quality players would affect the Premier League because that is Shafiqul Islam Manik's charges but it hardly caused but a ripple. Last the 'mother of all competitions'. month they completed the 'dou-Keeping that in mind we are preble' over Mohammedan with a paring to make a serious bid," he solitary goal victory in the added while talking to The Daily Federation Cup final. Star Sport on Friday.

Manik couldn't conceal his side's

club has achieved over the years.

"Winning the NFL for the first

time was a milestone for us in early

September. But then we lost six

veteran players and that came as a

big setback. But I'm happy the new

players have proven they are capa-

"The inter-club transfer is held

objective this season.

The title-hungry Muktijoddha But Manik was concerned that a have now set their sights on emuspate of injuries might hinder his lating the black and whites' feat of plans in the coming days. doing a treble by winning the coveted Premier League. And

"Currently five senior players in the squad are sidelined. Among them Moni and Hasan Al-Mamun are doubtful starters for our first match of the league.

only for the Premier League. So, On the other hand he was naturally we are aiming to win the Premier League. It doesn't have relieved the foreign players were getting used to being placed in new anything to do with winning three positions. major titles," said the man, who has been responsible for all that his

"Look at Ghansha, he was a defender while playing for Abahani. But I have employed him in the midfield and it is paying off. Liberian Toe is also doing well in the camp," he said.

Muktijoddha captain Matiur SEE PAGE 14 COL 5



THIS ONE'S FOR YOU: Australian vice-captain Ricky Ponting blows his wife Rianna, who was watching from the stands, a kiss after he reached the double hundred on the second day of the second Test against India at Adelaide yesterday.

India in deep trouble

Cricket

India had their backs to the wall

against Australia in the second

cricket Test here Saturday after the

double blow of losing master batsman Sachin Tendulkar and

The Indians, faced with a Ricky

Ponting-dominated first innings total of 556, lost the key wickets of Tendulkar and Ganguly 10 minutes

apart and facing the task of passing

play at the Adelaide Oval, India were 180 for four with Rahul Dravid

not out 43 and VVS Laxman on 55

India were shaken by the loss of

their champion batsman

At the close of the second day's

skipper Saurav Ganguly.

the follow-on target of 356.

AFP. Adelaide

Andy Bichel into the gloves of thoughts going through their wicketkeeper Adam Gilchrist. In minds today," said Ponting, who ored a record 242 in Australia

first innings.

Cricket the slips, while Butcher was stumped off Muralitharan. The day belonged to Dilshan, who followed his first-innings 63

with an impressive hundred. Sri Lanka, leading by 88 runs, Tillakaratne Dilshan celebrated his declared their second innings recall to Sri Lanka's team with a blistering century as England faced closed at 279-7 on the stroke of tea

cricket Test here on Saturday. Middle-order batsman Dilshan, axed from Test side more than two ears ago, cracked an exact 100 to help Sri Lanka set a difficult 368run target for the tourists.

penultimate day.

ESPN

Australia vs India



Live at 10:00 am

Live at 10:00 pm **STAR Sports**

AFP, Kandy

poor note as they lost opener Marcus Trescothick (14) and Mark Butcher (six) before being steadied Same Day Delay at 4:00 pm Vaugh

a tough task of saving the second

England were 89-2 in their second innings at stumps when bad light stopped play 20 minutes before the scheduled close on the

Skipper Michael Vaughan sustained England's hopes of chasing the highest fourth-innings total to win a Test in Sri Lanka with

four-wicket haul in the first innings on a slow turning wicket. The tourists' chase began on a

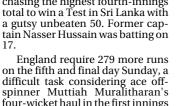
Cricket

AFP, Johannesburg

lohannesburg.

Indies.

ened.



completing his century in the afternoon session as he stepped



run-rate

DILSHAN ... 100

Dilshan, who played his last

stand of 132 with Kallis in 136

bowling with more discipline than the West Indians had shown Friday,

maintaining a consistent line on or outside off-stump, Kallis and Neil

AcKenzie could add only 26 in an

Kallis shared stands of 58 with

Mark Boucher (27) and 54 with

Wavell Hinds took the last three wickets for 79 runs to be the most

successful West Indian bowler.

With Dillon and Vasbert Drakes

Left-handed Jayasuriya was

Sri Lanka lost overnight bats-

men Sanath Jayasuriya and Kumar Sangakkara in the space of 12 runs

Thilan Samaraweera remained unbeaten with 23 with Kumar

Dharmasena (seven).

off just three overs.

The Bangladesh A team will launch their Pakistan tour today at the

Inter Department Cricket Cham-

teams will play a four-day match.

A total of 12 office teams of

Bangladesh have been placed in Group Ă along with DHA, Pakistan International Airlines, Customs,

Water and Power Development Authority (WAPDA), Khan Research Labs (KRL) and Pakistan Teleco-mmunication Company

Development Bank of Pakistan, Karachi Port Trust (KPT), Sui Gas Corporation of Pakistan, Allied Bank, National Bank of Pakistan and Habib Bank Limited. SQUAD

Mushfiqur Rahman (captain), Hannan Sarker, Moniruzzaman, Rajin Saleh, Manjarul Islam, Jamaluddin, Anwar Hossain Munir, Mazharul Haque Mohammad Ashraful, Ehsanul Haque, Shahriar Hossain, Alamgir Kabir, Tareq Aziz Khan Mohammad Salim and Mosaddel

Selectors are using the tour to

English Premier Football League Arsenal vs Blackburn Rovers Live at 8:00 pm



Bichel back

AFP, Adelaide

Andy Bichel was rejoicing the suc-cessful entrapment of the great Sachin Tendulkar to put the skids under India in the second cricket Test at the Adelaide Oval here on Coturder Saturday.

Bichel, whose place in the Australian team was under threat after his lacklustre 1-130 in the first Test, bounced back spectacularly with three wickets, Tendulkar's among them, to have the tourists 180 for four at the close of the second day in serve to Australia's second day in reply to Australia's 556.

The big-hearted medium pacer tempted Tendulkar into a drive outside off-stump and forced an edge to wicketkeeper Adam Gilchrist to dismiss him for one.

Left-handed Trescothick chased a wide delivery from left-arm seamer Chaminda Vaas to be caught by Mahela Jayawardene in

Jacques Kallis guided South Africa

Indies on Saturday, the home side being all out for 561 at tea in the first Test, played at Wanderers in

Kallis was the major contributor he made his 12th Test century

and his second against the West

But after reaching his hundred off 168 balls he needed another 129

deliveries to add 58 more runs before a ball from Mervyn Dillon kept low and crashed into his

The nature of the delivery which

After baking under a hot sun for

almost two days it was an indica-

tion that some uneven bounce could be expected as the pitch dried out and small cracks wid-

Kallis had an escape on 109

when he mistimed a pull against Fidel Edwards and a leaping Dillon

at wide mid-on could not hold a

After being thrashed for 398 runs while claiming only three wickets on the first day, the West

Indies fought back well, restricting South Africa to 65 runs for the loss

of two wickets in 27 overs before

lunch, then whittling their way

hrough the home team batting in

41 in 33 minutes between Robin Peterson and Makhaya Ntini frus-

trated the West Indies after they asked to delay the tea break by half

an hour because the South Africans

South Africa when Martin van Jaarsveld clipped Dillon firmly

through midwicket for four off the fifth ball of the day.

But Van Jaarsveld padded up to

the next ball, which cut back to trap him leg before wicket for a Test-best 73. It ended a fourth wicket

The day started promisingly for

were nine wickets down.

An attacking last wicket stand of

dismissed Kallis was a rare excep-tion on a pitch which had been

umps off an inside edge.

deal for batting.

difficult chance.

the afternoon.

Test in March 2001, smashed one six and 13 fours in his 129-ball knock for his second century in 11 matches. He added a record 153 for

Proteas' record total

Shaun Pollock (30).

minutes.

nour.

bowled by seamer James Kirtley while Sangakkara was caught by Paul Collingwood at forward short-SEE PAGE 14 COL 4

Edwards, Dillon and Corey

Chris Gayle, who pulled a ham-string while fielding Friday, did not go on the field Saturday, although

according to the West Indian team

management he was expected to

Scoreboard at tea on the second

day of the first Test between South

Africa and the West Indies at the

SEE PAGE 14 COL 1

PHOTO: AFF

South Africa centurion Jacques Kallis pulls one for four on way to scoring 158 on

the second day of the first Test against West Indies at Johannesburg yesterday.

Wanderers Stadium on Saturday:

West Indian opening batsman

Collymore took two each

bat with a runner.

SCOREBOARD

South Africa Graeme Smith said he was not aiming to become the most prolific Test batsman of 2003, despite scoring his fifth century on the first day of the first Test against West Indies on Friday. Smith's 132 was the cornerstone

of his side's imposing total of 368 for three after winning the toss on the opening day of the four-match series

Smith and Australians Ricky Ponting and Matthew Hayden have passed 1,100 Test runs this year, while West Indies captain Brian Lara and Smith's opening partner Herschelle Gibbs have reached 1,000.

rebuilding the innings after the shudder of quick wickets. "I'm not that interested in milestones like that," Smith told reporters after taking his year's total to 1,140 runs. Tendulkar for one, out driving

"It's not something I think about when I walk out to bat, but if it puts the team in a good position then that's fantastic. Smith said his innings was not

without difficult moments. "I had to fight off a few demons

SEE PAGE 14 COL 4

Div II cricket UNB, Dhaka

Narayanganj Cricket Academy won their respective matches in the Acme-Orchy Second Division

Cricket League at different venues in the city yesterday.

Chandpur CA defeated PWD Sports Club by 36 runs at the Dhanmondi Cricket ground while Narayanganj CA beat East End Club by two wickets at the Jagannath Hall ground.

SCORES IN BRIEF

CHANDPUR CA: 178 all out in 44.5 overs (Obayed 32 n o, Saiful 20, Azizul and Siddik Ali 19 each, extras 39; Samaresh 4-30)

PWD SPORTS CLUB: 142 all out in 43 overs (Sajibur 29, Khaled 28, Samiullah 24 not out, extras 20; Siddik 4-31, Taimur 3-34 and Kamruzzam 2-16)

EAST END CLUB: 125 all out in 43.3 overs (Arif 48, Alamgir 26, Shahdur 13, extras 17; Gopal 4-26 and Suman 2-29).

NARAYANGANJ CA: 126 for 8 in 42 overs (Payel 42 n o, Mishel 20, Suman 15, Nishu 12, extras 22; Nazmul 3-18).

o innin this series has scored just one run.

nership.

But there was further calamity Laxman continued his fine for the tourists when Ganguly, a fluent century-maker in the first series form after a 75 in Brisbane and raised his half-century off 95 Test, was run out in a dreadful mixballs with six boundaries. up with Dravid for two.

"We have got to come up with Ganguly attempted a second some plans overnight to try to run off Jason Gillespie but had to double back to the bowler's end restrict these guys, they're quite free-flowing when they get going and hopefully break the partner-ship sooner than later," Ponting said. only to be just beaten home by the combination of a throw from Brad Williams and smart work by Stuart MacGill to knock off the bails.

Dravid and Laxman were con-

uring memories of their part in

India's famous 171-run win over

Steve Waugh's team at Calcutta

two years ago with their match-

turning 376-run fifth wicket part-

"I don't even want to think about that (Calcutta loss) ... they

are very good players and I'm sure

they would have had those

short of their target.

ation," Ponting said.

series.

"I don't think we were ever

"The wicket here is always hard

going to bowl them out that

cheaply for that to be a consider-

to bat on last no matter how many

you're chasing so I don't think we

would have made them bat again

but still wary about the danger presented by VVS Laxman and

Rahul Dravid after the pair shared a

record 376 run stand in Calcutta

two years ago that turned the

today and stuck to our plans, they

"I thought we bowled really well

Australia finished the day on top

even if we got them out tonight.

India lost the wickets of openers Akash Chopra (27) and Virender Sehwag (47) before tea.

Bichel, whose place in the Australian team was under threat after a dismal bowling perfor-mance of 1-130 in the first Brisbane Test, bounced back with three wickets for 55 off 12 overs.

He took a diving return catch to dismiss Chopra in the 12th over and four overs later had Sehwag snapped up at first slip low down by Matthew Hayden.

But it was his cheap dismissal of Tendulkar in his seventh over which could prove decisive in this Test.

Australia were dismissed not long after lunch, the last three wickets falling in spinner Anil Kumble's 43rd over with Ricky Ponting scoring 242, the highest by an Australian against India.

Ponting surpassed teammate Justin Langer's 223 in the 1999-2000 series in Australia as he main-tained his dominance of the depleted Indian attack.

Ponting batted for 508 minutes and faced 352 balls, hitting 31 fours before he was caught by Dravid at slip attempting a late cut off a Kumble googly.

Kumble also claimed the wickets of the tailenders, bowling Williams and having MacGill leg before wicket for ducks to finish with 5-154.

Gillespie was left stranded on 48 two short of his maiden Test halfcentury.

Upon reaching his second Test double-century, Ponting waved his helmet and bat towards the team dressingroom and blew a kiss to his wife Rianna watching in the stands.

"She was actually thinking about going home after yesterday so I told her to hang around for a while because there might have been something special happening, she stayed on and managed to see me score 200 which was nice," Ponting said.

The Australians maintained their aggressive scoring tempo of 4.4 runs per over in the morning session

SEE PAGE 14 COL 5

second Test against India on Saturday. The Australian vice-captain

swung his bat and kicked the pitch in anger as he left to a standing ovation after his highest Test score and the highest by any Australian in a Test against India.

ference he was frustrated only because the team had wanted a bigger first innings total than the 556 they finished with.

to about 580, that was the total we

bit of work to do so I was pretty

with the score on 556 but Australia failed to add to their score when Indian spinner Anil Kumble captured three wickets in six balls, including Ponting, to mop up the tail and finish with five for 154.

Record doesn't please Ponting Cricket India's joy at wiping out the Australian tail quicker than expected was shortlived when they slumped to 85 for four and finished **REUTERS,** Adelaide the day on 180 for four, still 176 runs short of making the hosts bat Ricky Ponting said he felt he had let again. his teammates down when he was Ponting however said Australia finally dismissed for 242 in the planned to bat next even if India fell

Chandpur Cricket Academy and

Ponting later told a news con-

"The team plan today was to get wanted," Ponting said.

"When I got out there was still a disappointed.

played well the last hour and half of Ponting was the eighth man out the day so we've got to come up with some plans tomorrow to restrict these guys and hopefully break the partnership sooner rather than later," added Ponting.