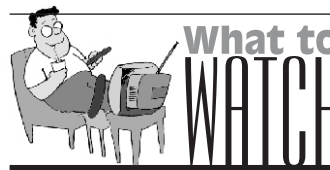




## Did U Know?

Along with Don Budge, Fred Perry and Roy Emerson, American Andre Agassi is one of only a handful of players to have won all four Grand Slam titles, the first player to achieve this feat for 31 years.



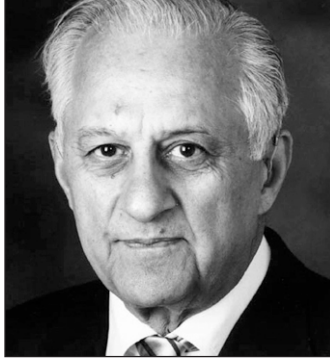
## What to Watch

**ESPN**  
South Africa vs West Indies  
First Test, Day Four  
Live at 2:27 pm  
Sportscentre Hindi  
Sport News  
Live at 9:30 pm

**STAR Sports**  
Australia vs India  
Second Test, Day Four  
Live at 6:30 am  
Sportsline Tonight  
Sport News  
Live at 8:00 pm



## Talk Turkey



**Shaharyar Khan**  
(Pakistan Cricket Board chairman)  
"I attach a lot of importance to cricket relations with India and I believe that regular cricket exchanges will help improve relations between the two countries."

**Star WHIZZ KID COMPETITION 202**

Tick the correct answers, post to **The Daily Star**  
Win attractive prizes  
Competition closes at 8 pm Dec 19, 2003 and draw

- Who has been named Australia's Test captain?  
Gillchrist  
Ponting  
Martyn
- Who won the Rugby World Cup?  
Australia  
England  
New Zealand
- Who will lead the Bangladesh A team to Pakistan?  
Rajin  
Mushiq  
Hannan
- Who won the Federation Cup title?

Name .....  
Class ..... Roll No. ....  
School Address .....  
Phone: (if any) .....

## Williams out of Adelaide Test

Australia's hopes of victory over India in the second Adelaide Test took a hit with the news on Sunday that fast bowler Brad Williams will take no further part after injuring a shoulder in a fall while fielding.

Williams badly strained his left shoulder joint in trying to prevent a boundary and Australia is now left with just three front-line bowlers Jason Gillespie, Andy Bichel and Stuart MacGill with which to bowl the home side to a 1-0 lead in the four-match series.

"I landed pretty solid on my shoulder and apparently I've got a Grade One strain in my AC joint and I'll see what happens with treatment overnight," Williams said after Sunday's third day's play.



**SWEET FEEL OF VICTORY:** Captain Anisur Rahman (3rd from R) leads a happy Barisal squad off the ground after they had beaten Dhaka in a one-day fixture of the National Cricket League at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium yesterday.

## Ctg's 'double' delight

### Sabbir claims a hatrick



**SPORTS REPORTER**

Chittagong became the only team to emerge victorious in both forms of the Mirzapore Tea Fifth National Cricket League when they defeated Rajshahi by two wickets yesterday. On the other hand Khulna and Dhaka both suffered setbacks in the limited-overs competition after winning their opening four-day games against Sylhet and Barisal.

Unheralded Barisal stunned star-studded Dhaka with an exciting one-wicket victory over the Khaled Mahmud men's at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium while hosts Sylhet took sweet revenge

against Khulna with an emphatic 101-run victory.

**CHITTAGONG V RAJSHAHI**

Off-spinner Sabbir Khan recorded the first hatrick of the 50-over contest as Chittagong completed a 'double' over Rajshahi at the Comilla Stadium, where they posted an eight-wicket win the other day.

The lanky BKSP product achieved the milestone after dismissing the last three Rajshahi batsmen Rezwanaul, Shahjada and Saifullah with the final three deliveries of the innings.

His mop-up operation restricted Rajshahi to 218. Sabbir eventually finished with 4-33.

Faisal Hossain and Masum-

udullah scored half-centuries as Chittagong reached the target with three balls to spare in a nail-biting finish.

Opener Masum top-scored with 65 that included three boundaries while Faisal continued his rich vein of form with a 93-ball 64 that featured two sixes and three fours.

Faisal scored 164 runs in the two innings of the four-day match that included an unbeaten 99 in the first innings.

Chittagong will now move to Dhaka to play their second match from December 18-22.

### DHAKA V BARISAL

Poor batting shattered Dhaka's hopes of finishing their first game on

SEE PAGE 14 COL 1

## Biman fly high

**SPORTS REPORTER**

Bangladesh Biman maintained their solo lead in the First Division Chess League with 23.5 points at the end of the sixth round at the National Sports Council conference room yesterday.

After a day's rest in the meet, Biman beat Anushillan Daba Kirra Chakra 4-0.

Bangladesh Ansars beat Leonine Chess Club by 2.5-1.5 points. Leonine, however, were in the second position with 18 points and the Ansars were trailing them with 17 points.

Other result are, Sonali Bank beat Titas Club 3.5-5, Destiny 2000 beat Rajshahi Daba Unnyan Sangtha by 3-1 points, Kamalapur Samaj Kalyan and Kirra Sangha beat Fighter Kirra Chakra by 2.5-1.5 points, Narayanganj City Chess Club beat Dhaka University Chess Team by 2.5-1.5 points, Farashganj Sporting Club beat Mohakhali Prodig Sangha 3.5-5 points, and Nakhapara Jubu Kallyan Sangha beat Monipur Chess Club 3-1.

The seventh round starts today at 3:00 PM at the same venue. The matches are: Ansars vs Nakhapara, Rajshahi vs Leonine, Titas vs Destiny 2000, Kamalapur vs Sonali Bank, University vs Fighter, Biman vs Narayanganj, Prodig vs Anushillan and Monipur vs Farashganj.

## Naimuddin to come later

**SPORTS REPORTER**

Former Indian national football coach Naimuddin finally arrived in the capital on Saturday to meet Brothers Union officials and assure them that he would take over the star-studded team a few days later.

Naimuddin was originally scheduled to arrive in the capital on December 11 but he missed the flight.

Brothers officials said that he would be joining the Gopibagh side after spending some more time with his US-based son, who is now in Kolkata on a leave.

There was speculation that Naimuddin, who also coached East Bengal in the nineties, would never come here.

Naimuddin met Mayor of Dhaka

SEE PAGE 14 COL 5



**Abahani's Russian recruit Maxim (R) sends a through pass during a practice game at the club's Dhanmondi ground on Saturday.**

## Time to forget the blues



**SPORTS REPORTER**

### HASAN MASOOD

For the last two years Abahani Krira Chakra have missed the sweet taste of success. The sky blues despite having what was thought to be a title-winning squad failed to capture any of the three major competitions Federation Cup, national football league (NFL) and Premier League.

The scenario is not at all inspiring this year so far. The popular Dhanmondi outfit made an exit from the semifinal stage of the NFL and they endured the same torture in the Federation Cup, where Abahani suffered a heart-breaking defeat in a seven-goal thriller to bitter rivals Mohammedan Sporting Club.

Their only shot at glory now is the coming Premier League that kicks off on December 17. And Abahani like their other rivals know that if they lift coveted championship then all the earlier disappoint-

ments will be forgotten.

Besides, winning the championship will also act as a revenge of sort for Abahani after their acrimonious tug-of-war with Muktiyoddha Sangsad Krira Chakra over the possession of country's number one goalkeeper Aminul in the run up to the inter-club transfer.

The Aminul issue not only put Abahani in an embarrassing position but also prompted a police raid on the club premises that sparked uproar in the sports arena.

Although the sentiment was with Abahani but the failure to secure the services of Aminul did more harm than good for one of the two crowd-pulling outfits in the country.

It was not that they failed to win Aminul but also lost seven other players because of the sensational Brothers coup.

The hardest blow came in defence when a dependable Nazrul opted to join Brothers Union. Besides, they hoped to retain midfielder Liton but he had other ideas.

However, the return of Masood Rana to the club where he started his career and luring midfield workhorse Arif Khan Joy from Mohammedan boosted their morale.

Abahani also turned heavily on foreign imports this year and as many as seven are training with the team.

Five have already featured in the Federation Cup. They are Guinea central defender Scylla, Ghanaian Osamanu, Brazilian midfielder Sandro and Nigerian strike pair Donald and Kennedy.

Besides, the Abahani management have brought in two more Russians players Nikolai and Maxim last week after what had happened in the Federation Cup, where the defence looked vulnerable and the finishing was not there.

Nikolai will act as a sweeper while Maxim, the son of Abahani coach Anatoly Olkhov, is hoped to be a cool finisher.

"I think the team is the right balance new the arrival of the new

SEE PAGE 14 COL 5

## Hossain stars for A team



**SPORTS REPORTER**

Opener Shahriar Hossain gave a vintage performance as the Bangladesh A team began their Pakistan tour with a 35-run win over Defense Housing Authority (DHA) in the limited-over match of the Inter Department Cricket Championship (Patron's Cup) yesterday.

The two teams will now compete in a four-day affair beginning from today at the same venue Karachi National Stadium.

Hossain, who was left in the wilderness after playing against India in Bangladesh's inaugural Test in November, 2000, celebrated his return to the national colours

by top-scoring with 78 as the visitors made fighting 217 for seven wickets in the stipulated 50 overs. The right-hander from Narayanganj struck five fours and two sixes in his 135-ball innings before getting run out.

Test opener Hannan Sarker made 34 as the openers gave the A side a solid start.

But the middle-order failed to fire. New find Rajin Saleh scored 5 while the talented Mohammad Ashraf could make just 9. Wicketkeeper Mohammad Salim (33) and skipper Mushfiqur Rahman (29 not out) ensured that the A side passed 200.

Salim faced just 25 deliveries with three hits to the fence while skipper Mushfiqur Rahman was unbeaten with run-a-ball 29.

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**BETTER LATE THAN NEVER!** Brothers Union's Indian coach Naimuddin arrives at the club premises yesterday.

## Vaughan ensures draw



**SPORTS REPORTER**

A marathon hundred by captain Michael Vaughan helped England salvage a draw in the second Test against Sri Lanka on Sunday.

Vaughan resisted over seven hours for his 105 from 333 balls to help England survive a torrid final day, just as they did in the drawn first Test in Galle.

The tourists, who resumed on 89 for two chasing a highly improbable 368 to win, finished on 285 for seven.

Muralitharan took four for 64 from 56 overs to follow his four

wickets in the first innings. He finished with a match analysis of eight for 124.

Vaughan's painstaking hundred, which revived memories of Michael Atherton's 10-hour match-saving 185 against South Africa in 1995-96, was his 10th in Tests and the first since he took over the captaincy from Nasser Hussain in July.

England looked likely losers when Muralitharan trapped Andrew Flintoff (19) lbw the third time the off spinner has claimed the all rounder's wicket in four innings and had Vaughan snapped up at bat-pad to leave England 233 for seven with an hour and 20 minutes remaining.

But Chris Read and Gareth

Batty, who was given a reprieve on two after gloving a catch to short leg, batted a further 20 minutes until the umpires started the final hour at 4.36 pm.

Sri Lanka captain Hashan Tillakaratne, who had set bizarrely defensive fields throughout the day, took the new ball in the 122nd over but soon turned back to his spinners as a sickly Chaminda Vaas ran out of steam.

As the minutes ticked away, Sri Lanka's frustration was heightened by regular time-wasting interruptions from England's 12th man Matthew Hoggard.

Batty and Read held firm, doggedly defending during an unbroken 87-minute partnership.

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**RAHUL RULES:** India's top batsman Rahul Dravid is ecstatic after reaching his ton against Australia at Adelaide yesterday.

## That Indian duo at it again



**SPORTS REPORTER**

Rahul Dravid lived up to his moniker 'The Wall' with a defiant innings to bat India back into the second cricket Test against Australia at the Adelaide Oval here on Sunday.

The vice-captain produced his biggest innings against the Australians and shared in another heart-breaking triple-century stand with VVS Laxman to place India within 79 runs of Australia's first innings 556 at stumps on Day Three.

Dravid frustrated Australian efforts all day to ram home a substantial innings lead and push for victory after drawing the rain-ruined opening Test in Brisbane last week.

At the close, Dravid was unconquered on 199, one short of his fourth Test double-century, with Anil Kumble on one and India at 477 for seven.

Dravid and Laxman batted India past the 357 follow-on in a 303-run fifth wicket partnership that took on overtones of their 'Calcutta miracle' stand two years ago.

"In certain ways it was (familiar), in Calcutta we were not out at the end of the day, so it was a little

different, but being part of such a long partnership brought back some very pleasant memories," Dravid said.

Dravid, last month voted as India's top cricketer-of-the-year, compiled his 16th Test century and second against Australia to rescue the Indian tourists with Laxman from a parlous 85 for four late on Saturday's second day.

"We didn't talk about it (Calcutta Test), we were concentrating on the present and we were just thinking about playing each and every ball on its merit and play out as long as possible, but we didn't talk about Eden Gardens (Calcutta)," Laxman said.

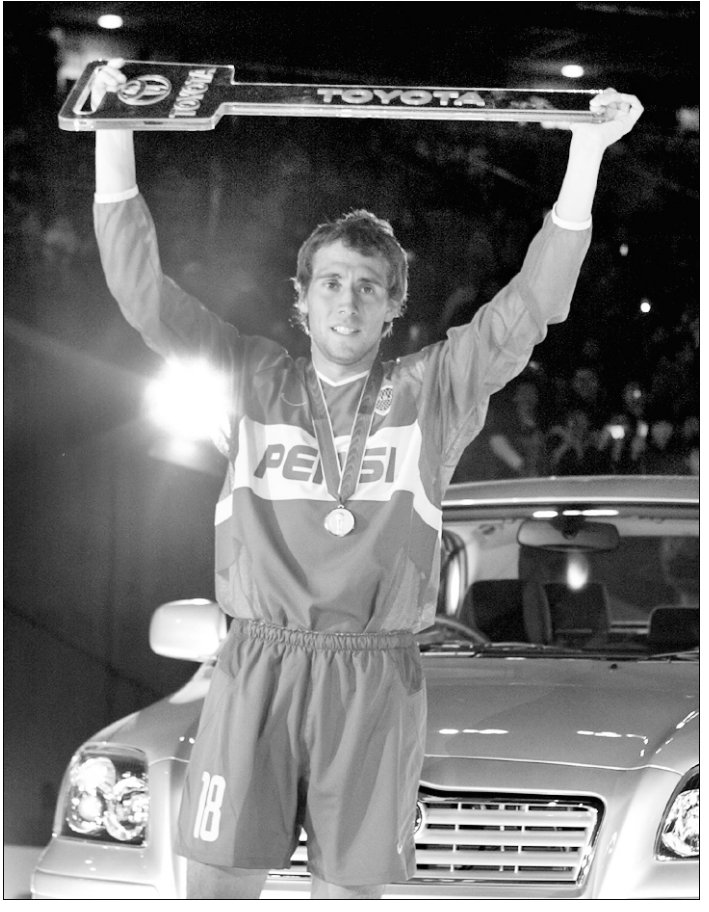
Laxman, who holds the highest score for India of 281 against Australia, was dropped twice by Ricky Ponting on 65 and 139 at second slip before he was out in the last over before tea for a majestic 148.

Bichel broke through when Laxman edged to wicketkeeper Adam Gilchrist ending a 356-minute epic for his third century against Australia off 282 deliveries with 18 boundaries.

It was Bichel's fourth wicket of the innings after dismissing Akash Chopra (27), Virender Sehwag (47) and Sachin Tendulkar (1) on Saturday.

Ponting dropped Laxman off paceman Brad Williams on the first

SEE PAGE 14 COL 6



**Boca Juniors midfielder Matias Abel Donnet shows a huge key of the Toyota Motor sedan Avensis car he received as the most valuable player (MVP) of the Toyota Cup European/South American football club championship against Italian giants AC Milan in Yokohama yesterday. Boca defeated Milan 3-1 in penalties after regulation and extra time ended 1-1.**

## Boca best of continents

**AFP, Yokohama**

Two fine saves by Roberto Carlos Abbondanzieri inspired Boca Juniors to defeat AC Milan 3-1 in a penalty shoot-out Sunday for their third win in the Intercontinental Cup.

Milan - who had been heavily criticised for fielding a second string side in the midweek Champions League match so they could rest players for the Boca test - opened the scoring in the 24th minute through Jon-Dahl Tomasson but Boca levelled five minutes later when Matias Donnet struck.

Tomasson's goal was set up by a longball from midfield by Andrea Pirlo which his strike partner Andriy Shevchenko let go through, allowing the Danish international to hit past Boca keeper Roberto Carlos Abbondanzieri into the left corner of the net.

However Donnet struck back almost immediately as Milan's Brazilian goalkeeper Dida failed to catch a cross from the left and the Argentinian side's striker pounced to fire home a left-footer.

Milan dominated possession and saw efforts by Pirlo and Kaka miss in the 53rd and 66th minutes.

The 19-year-old striker Carlos Alberto Tevez, who is being hailed as the "new Maradona", entered the fray in the 73rd minute and Boca almost took the lead a minute later from a corner.

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