



Jacob Oram of New Zealand scored 139 runs from 169 balls in the first innings of the first Test against South Africa. It was his third century, second against South Africa.



**BTV & STAR Sports** Bangladesh vs Australia 2nd Test. Day Four Live at 10:00 am

Zee Sports & Channel i India vs Pakistan Live at 5:30 pm

> **ESPN** South Africa vs New Zealand Ist Test. Day Five Live at 1:30 pm **UEFA Champions League**

Live at 12:30 am (Thursday)





#### Adam Parore

(Former New Zealand wicketkeeper) "He's big and rawboned and suspect he has the IQ of an empty swimming pool." On Andre Nel ahead of the first

Test at Centurion.



#### **National school** soccer from April 21

BDNEWS, Dhaka

The Banglalink Tiger Trophy National School Football Championship will begin at different venues across the country on April

This is the first time the Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) is going to organise a national competition at school level.

"We will give all out effort to hunt talent from this tournament, which we plan to hold regularly," said BFF president SA Sultan at a press conference at BFF Bhaban yester-

"Bangladesh's football depends on the future of young talent," Sultan added.

BFF vice president Abdur Rahim, secretary of the LGRD ministry and chairman of tournament committee SM Zahurul Islam. Banglalink official Shahed Zubair, were also present. BFF officials said the tournament is

a part of the VisionBangladesh programme, prescribed by the AFC Football Confederation.

The BFF appointed Aktivision to manage the event around the

country at cost of Tk 15 lakh. The first part of the tournament will take place at 16 regional venues where the participating teams, split into two groups, will play on league

Group champions from the regional venues will qualify for the knockout final stage. They will also be split into two groups

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AI-Ahed striker El Ali Mahmud attempts an acrobatic volley as Brothers Union defender Jewel Rana takes evasive action during their AFC Cup encounter at the Bangabandhu National Stadium on Tuesday.

### Brothers go down to Al Ahed

**SPORTS REPORTER** 



Brothers Union all but crashed out of contention for a quarterfinal berth in the AFC Cup when the home side lost 3-1 to 10-men Al Ahed

in a Group A match at the Bangabandhu National Stadium vesterday.

The victory, Al Ahed's first in three rounds, kept the Lebanese club alive for a berth in the last eight for the second successive time. They climbed to second place with four points with Bahrain's Al Muharraq leading the table with seven points. Dhaka League and Federation Cup champions Brothers remained bottom of the table with one point after their second defeat

Al Ahed were reduced to ten men in the 51st minute when defender Hassan Nassarallah was sent off for his second bookable offence. But the visitors, who were leading 2-1 at that stage, did not show the weakness and scored another goal in the remaining time to seal three valuable points.

Even before the home side were settled, captain Bassem Marmar opened the account in the fifth minute with a side-header after Sierra Leone midfielder Abu Bakkar curled a freekick over the wall from

Topu wasted a great chance ten

minutes later when the Brothers forward shot the ball over the lone keeper inside from the box. But he made amends five minutes from the short whistle with an equaliser in his second attempt. Topu dribbled past Al Ahed defender Kabiru Ibrahim with a through from Pranotosh Das but his shot was parried by goalkeeper Bilal Hachim. The ball ran wide but Topu kept his cool to tap it in from an acute

Both the sides had chances in the first half but Ahed's 18-year-old midfielder Hassan Maatuk and his Brothers counterpart Abul Hossain shot the ball over.

The Lebanese returned to the second half with fresh vigour and defender Abbas Kenaan joined the attack during a corner to set up El Ali Mahmud's goal in the 50th minute. Kenaan received an across-thepitch lob from Maatuk after a quickly taken corner and drove a powerful cross to Mahmud who pounced home from handshaking distance.

The pair of Maatuk and Abbas, with skill and speed, kept the home defence under constant threat but goalkeeper Aminul made superb saves to deny efforts by Bakaar and Maatuk after Shuvra made a goalline save on Atwi's intelligent chip over Aminul.

It was Kenaan who found the net in the 76th minute from close after Aminul and his fellow defenders were unsettled by a left-side centre by substitute Osama Haider.

Al Ahed coach Jamal Al Haj said after the match that they were confident to win the rest of the matches and qualify for the knock-

"We lost to Muharraq and drew with Mahindra but in both games, we were the better side. So I am confident this win will give us a boost to look for ward," said Jamal praising his attacking pair Atwi and Maatuk.

out stage

"We could have won big as the forwards wasted a number of chances. I think after scoring an early goal, they were a bit relaxed," the coach said.

"We were worried about the weather but the overnight shower kept things cool, it was close to our home condition," said Al Ahed captain Marmar. "Maatuk is a great player and I think he was below par today. You just did not see what he

"We controlled the game even with ten players because the coach knows how to deal with this situation. And we played better than Brothers." he said adding that striker Topu impressed him among the local boys.

Brothers coach Wajed Gazi admitted that his side lost to the better team. "We could not take advantage of the opposition being one man short. Actually, our preparation was inadequate. I hardly had ten players together because most of them were on national duty," Gazi said. "This result was expected because of those shortcomings."

### Malik restricts India

Cricket

AFP, Abu Dhabi

Pakistan off-spinner Shoaib Malik grabbed three wickets to boost Pakistan's chances of ending a dismal run against India as they restricted their arch-rivals to 197 in the first one-dayer here on Tuesday.

Pakistan, who lost the last four matches at home against India in February, bowled and fielded with discipline in the first of two day-night games held here to raise funds for last year's earthquake victims.

India, fresh from a recent 5-1 triumph against England at home, found runs hard to come by on a slow Zayad stadium pitch where the stroke making was difficult.

Malik made the Indian batsmen struggle with his tidy line and length and finished with 3-40, including the wicket of in-form aggressive batsman Mahendra Dhoni (three)

Middle-order batsman Venugopal Rao top-scored for India with an unbeaten 61, his best in 14 oneday internationals. Even he was not allowed to score freely as he hit just three fours in his 93-ball knock.

Pakistan's fielders backed their bowlers remarkably well, bringing off four run-outs.

India's problems began when skipper Rahul Dravid (20) and Irfan Pathan (26) were caught short of the crease in quick succession. The innings also ended in a pair of runouts, victims being Harbhajan Singh and Shanthakumaran Sreesanth.

Rao gave a good account of himself on a difficult track, steadying the innings with a 64-run stand for the fifth wicket with teenager Suresh

Raina (40) after his team had been reduced to 72-4.

Proceeds from Tuesday's match will be donated to the survivors of the massive earthquake that hit Kashmir last October killing more than 73,000 people in Pakistan and 1.300 in India.

Revenues from the second game on Wednesday will be shared by the Indian and Pakistan cricket boards after a million dollars is given **SCOREBOARD** 

Scoreboard of the Indian innings in the first one-day international against Pakistan on Tuesday: Uthappa c Yousuf b Rana

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Pakistan seamer Navedul Hasan celebrates taking the wicket of Indian batsman Irfan Pathan during the first ODI at Abu Dhabi on Tuesday.

#### Test boycott continues

BDNEWS, Chittagong

Sports journalists will continue to boycott the coverage of the second Bangladesh-Australia Test until the police personnel responsible for attacks on journalists are brought to

Sports and photo journalists, who came here to cover the match and came under police attacks, already left for the capital last eve-

At least 20 journalists were injured during the police attacks on the opening day of the Chittagong

The journalists in a meeting with the Bangladesh Cricket Board officials on Monday night reached an understanding on a nine-point demand, but stuck to boycotting the coverage until they got written assurance about realisation of their

Meanwhile, a meeting of the journalists unions held on Tuesday placed a four-point demand and urged the government to immediately concede to those demands. Otherwise journalists across the country will launch a tougher movement, the meeting warned.

The meeting held under the auspices of Chittagong Union of Journalists, Chittagong Press Club, Chittagong Metropolitan Union of Journalists, Chittagong Sports Journalists Association and Chittagong Photo Journalists Association demanded a judicial inquiry committee to be headed by a judge, suspension of the three police personnel responsible for the attacks, proper treatment of the injured and, if necessary, to send the injured journalists abroad. **SEE PAGE 13 COL 4** 

#### Mohammedan's nightmare in Amman

**SPORTS REPORTER** 

Mohammedan Sporting Club returned to Asian club competition with a nightmare 7-0 defeat to Jordan's Al Wihdat in the Group C opener of the AFC Cup in Amman vesterday.

Striker Mahamoud Shelbaieh opened the account in the third minute at the Amman Interna-tional Stadium and Mohammedan managed to keep the scoreline slim at the break. However, there was no respite for the Bangladesh National League champions after the break as they conceded four goals inside eight minutes

Shelbaieh completed a hattrick with goals in the 53rd and 55th minute while midfielder Hasan Abdul Fattah scored a brace, in the 54 and 70 minutes. Midfielder Rafat Ali added the other two in the 47 and 72 minutes.

The group has been whittled down to two teams after the disqualification of Yemen's Al Hilal and Oman's Dhofar clubs due to late registration of players.

Mohammedan, who will host the nine-time Jordan League champions on April 25 at the Bangaban-dhu National Stadium, will need an improbable 8-0 win next week to qualify for the knockout stage.

#### Tendulkar opts out of WI ODIs

PTI, New Delhi

Sachin Tendulkar has withdrawn from the one-day series of the West Indies tour and his availability for the Test series would be known after a fitness test on May 10.

Tendulkar has informed the Cricket Board (BCCI) that he was still recuperating from a shoulder operation that he underwent last month and would not be fit in time for the five-match series from May 18 to

The Mumbai batsman, however, has left open his availability for the four Tests, a decision, which he expects to make on May 10 when his fitness is to be assessed, according to Board sources. The first Test begins on June 2 in

The Indian team is scheduled to depart for the Caribbean on May 12 and the squad for the tour is to be

picked in Mumbai on Thursday. Tendulkar, who underwent a shoulder operation in London on March 27, was advised a 26-day rehabilitation programme.

The sources said the batsman was progressing steadily but would be part of the Test squad only if he recovered fully. "Tendulkar's chances of making

the Test team is dependent on his recovery and the final assessment of his progress to find his full range of his shoulder movement, graded increases of the strength and control of the shoulder and scapulae will be done by May 10," the sources said.

# The citizen is always right

ARCHITECT DR. NIZAMUDDIN

The focus of the nation quickly shifted from blood-spattered Kansat to bloody Chittagong. Almost simultaneously with their withdrawal from the electricity-hungry northern district, after prolonging an apparently simple matter (as the guick settlement later proved) but tragically at the cost of 17 innocent lives, some other police personnel swooped on onduty sports reporters and photographers covering the Bangladesh-Australia second Test match in the

While after yet another episode of death and burial of the country's dwindling image at Kansat, much of it to do with police brutality, the lawenforcers across the country should have been extra especially cautious in discharging their duty. Some of them sometimes forget that their duty is to contain the law and order situation, not to participate in one.

port city last Sunday.

Whatever may have been the mix-up at the gate, under no circumstances can a policeman physically assault a person talking about getting in: case in point is a prominent photographer. As a gesture of goodwill the guilty policeman, belligerent Sergeant Anwar, has been suspended. Totally uncalled for also at

that time was police's pistol-loaded threat given to another photographer recording the event. If it was not Anwar, this man should also be brought to book. More suspensions and even sacking will go to show that police have picked up the right chords

Unexplainable and unpardonable was the recklessness of former CMP DC (Port) Ali Akbar (now closed), who led a violent unprovoked police assault on the journalists at Chittagong. Let us for argument's sake

ignore the journalists' tag of Sunday's victims at Birshreshtha Ruhul Amin. Under what authority does a police officer raise his weapon on a citizen of this country? They were not dealing with crimi-Who gave police the right to

unleash a Nazi-style attack on citizens of this country? Each person had appropriate accreditation to be present at the place. How can a police officer raise his ugly fist on 65-year-old photographer Jahirul Hug? How can police-

men then kick him when he has been knocked to the ground? Such cowardice has not been seen since 1971 when Pakistani soldiers sneeringly committed homicide.

How can a police officer make a

injury? Providing indemnity of any degree for such berserk policemen will be more criminal an offence

How can an official police press release be full of lies, as admitted by no less than the modest CMF Commissioner on Monday? Contrary to the goal of any competent police force, such misrepresentation of facts creates distance and distrust with the citizens, ideally a friend. The persons responsible for the press release should be pun-

Appointments and promotions based on only political affiliation should stop. Time and again police officers have tried to prove their lovalty (?) by being overenthusiastic and ignoring the code of practice. This has embarrassed the police force, the party concerned, the government and the country. More narm than any good has been done.

Police must take up their job as a public relations undertaking. As in business, where it is known not all the customers are always right, till attacked our police must follow the approach that the citizen is always

(The author is former Advisory Sports Editor of The Daily Star)

## Ntini, Steyn turn the tables on the Kiwis

Cricket

AFP, Centurion

Makhaya Ntini and Dale Steyn bowled South Africa to within sight of victory on a weather-hit fourth day of the first Test against New Zealand at Centurion Park Tuesday.

New Zealand were 98 for seven at the close, with their victory target of 249 seemingly a distant dream.

Ntini took four for 41 and his new ball partner Steyn three for 35 as New Zealand's hopes crumbled on an unpredictable pitch under a heavily overcast sky. Bad light and rain restricted the afternoon's play to an hour, delaying

the resumption after lunch and causing the umpires to take the players off five minutes before the re-scheduled tea break. Only nine balls were bowled after tea before bad light stopped play for the day.

The weather gave New Zealand some respite after a disastrous morning in which they crashed to 34

Opening batsman Hamish Marshall and hard-hitting wicketkeeper Brendon McCullum staged a minor recovery, putting on 45 before McCullum was the only man to be dismissed during the shortened afternoon.

McCullum made 33 off 38 balls hitting sixes off both Ntini and Stevn. before he edged Stevn to first slip.

Marshall remained unbeaten on 24 after batting for 145 minutes and facing 77 balls. It was a courageous innings because he took a heavy blow in the ribs from Ntini and was then hit on the left glove by Ntini's next ball.

Ntini started the collapse when he took two wickets in his second over.

New Zealand's collapse was worse than in the first innings when they were 45 for five but recovered to make 327 and take a first innings

First innings century-maker Jacob Oram was among Ntini's victims, bowled for two by a fast delivery which kept low and sent his off stump flying.

Ntini had Peter Fulton caught

behind off the first ball of his second

First innings tail-ender Kyle Mills was promoted to number three but two balls later was caught by a diving Boeta Dippenaar at first slip.

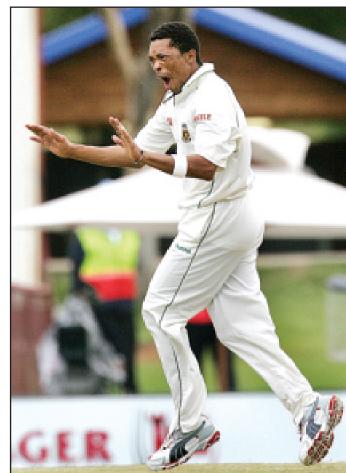
Steyn had New Zealand captain Stephen Fleming caught at second slip and Scott Styris caught behind before Ntini had Nathan Astle caught at third slip. Then Oram was bowled to leave New Zealand's

innings in tatters. The pitch again gave the bowlers plenty of help, with uneven bounce

accentuated by the new ball. Ntini took five for 94 in the first innings and needs one more wicket to complete his fourth ten-wicket haul in Tests.

He would also become the first South African to perform the feat twice in successive Tests, after taking ten for 178 in a losing cause in the third Test against Australia in

Johannesburg earlier this month. SEE PAGE 13 COL 2



South Africa bowler Makhaya Ntini is delighted at clean-bowling New Zealand's Jacob Oram (not in picture) on the fourth day of the first Test at

### Sunny doesn't buy it

Cricket

AFP, New Delhi

Indian great Sunil Gavaskar scoffed at suggestions that excessive cricket was burning players out, saying the hard grind was part of the honour of representing one's coun-

Gavaskar, who now heads the powerful cricket committee of the sport's world governing body, said he was shocked at players complaining of the gruelling international schedule. "I can't see the problem, these

players are turning out for their

countries. it's an honour to repre-

sent your country," Gavaskar said on a television programme. "I would be willing to sweat 365 days in a year for India. Those who can't stand the heat should stay out."

Federation of International Cricketers Association (FICA) President Tim May has mentioned the possibility of a players' strike if

the International Cricket Council (ICC) fails to change the cramped schedule.

"We're frustrated, we're concerned, we're disappointed the ICC and the member countries aren't abiding by principles that are supposed to be abided by in the scheduling of tours," May told Australia's The Sun-Herald newspaper earlier this week.

"It's a revenue-raising frenzy. It's pushing the players into a position where they're just going to say, 'No, it's too much, we're walking away from this, we're not going to play in these games.'

Since August, India have played 32 one-dayers - an average of nearly one a week - in Sri Lanka, Zimbabwe, Pakistan and far-flung venues in their own country.

Australia will rest for three months after the Bangladesh tour while England go straight into their

May said the players would be drained by the time the World Cup SEE PAGE 13 COL 5

### Amal, Ranjan reach gtrs

BDNEWS, Dhaka

Amal Roy and Ranjan Ram progressed to the quarterfinals in the men's singles event of the MA Jabbar Memorial Tennis Tourna-

ment yesterday. Sathi Sarker and Ma Hi Chin moved to the semifinals in the women's singles event. Meanwhile, Dhaka Club con-

firmed their semifinal berth in the team-event beating Jamalpur Club.

#### Dinajpur sports

Binojnagar KKS became champions

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpui** 

of the Nawabaani Gold Cup football tournament held at the local high school ground on Saturday. They beat Daudpur Eleven by a solitary goal in the final.

At the Dinajpur Cricket Stadium Balubari Eleven reached the final of the First Division Cricket League when they defeated Prochesta Krira Chakra by 129 runs on Sunday.

