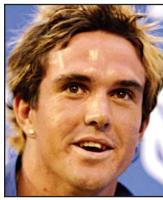
DHAKA SATURDAY AUGUST 5, 2006, E-MAIL: sports@thedailystar.net



Shahadat Hossain Rajib became the first Bangladeshi bowler to claim a hattrick in one-day international cricket. Overall, he became the 19th bowler in the world to have





#### Kevin Pietersen

(England batsman)

"I think Monty (Panesar) can be a fantastic bowler. I fancy my chances against most spinners and I honestly think that he is up there."



#### **TEN Sports**

Sri Lanka v South Africa Second Test, Day 2 Live at 11:00 am **ESPN** 

England v Pakistan Third Test, Day 2 Live at 4:00 pm

### **Bashar coming** back

**SPORTS REPORTER** 

Injured Bangladesh captain Habibul Bashar left Harare yesterday morning on his way to Dhaka.

The skipper, who stayed back in Zimbabwe as a non-playing member for the third ODI to encourage his side, is expected to arrive home on board a Qatar Airways flight on Sunday after a grueling journey which will take him to Nairobi on his way to the transit destination Doha.

Bashar injured his left fifth metacarpal while trying to catch Zimbabwe opener Vusimusi Sibanda in the second ODI last Sunday and an X-ray revealed that there was a small fracture which would require four to six weeks to

In Bashar's absence, former captain Khaled Mashud is leading the side in Africa.

Tushar Imran has been kept prepared by Bangladesh Cricket Board to replace the long-serving

#### Dalmiya resumes **BCCI** battle

PTI, Kolkata

Former Indian Cricket Board president Jagmohan Dalmiya on Friday moved a city court challenging the Board of Control for Cricket in India's (BCCI) summons to him for appearing before its Disciplinary Committee on August 15 in connection with the PILCOM accounts issue.

Cricket

Muttiah Muralidaran grabbed

another five-wicket haul as Sri

Lanka halted South Africa's batting

revival on an enthralling opening

day of the second Test here on

The off-spinner's 55th five-

wicket feat, that took his career

tally to 650, saw South Africa being

bowled out for 361 off the penulti-

in with 3-81 as South Africa, hap-

pily placed on 231-4 at tea, lost six

wickets in a dramatic final session

In a day of swinging fortunes,

South Africa were reduced to 31-3

by the eighth over before captain

Ashwell Prince (86) and A.B. de

Villiers (95) put on 161 for the fifth

the post-lunch session, fell in the

space of seven overs after tea to

The duo, who batted through

on a sporting Sara Oval pitch.

Seamer Lasith Malinga chipped

mate ball of the day.

AFP, Colombo

Friday.

City Civil Court chief judge P K Sarkar fixed the matter for hearing

on August 10. Dalmiya challenged the BCCI's notice to appear before its Disciplinary Committee claiming that the Board's previous summons to appear on July 26 was challenged by him before the court and during pendancy of the petition, the board could not issue fresh sum-

The BCCI had earlier asked Dalmiya to appear before its Disciplinary Committee on July 26 in connection with the PILCOM accounts issue, but as Dalmiya had moved court challenging the sum-

mons, it had deferred the notice. The chief judge of the City Civil Court, P K Sarkar had on July 26 refused to stay the summons issued to Dalmiya by the BCCI Disciplinary Committee to appear

# **Dreams die fast**

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

What was supposed to be a dream simply turned into a nightmare for Bangladesh.

One more game still to go in the five-match series but it could hardly mean anything for the Tigers as they were dealt with the cruel reality of losing the series after Zimbabwe had taken an unassailable 3-1 lead, winning the fourth match by seven wicketš in Harare yesterday.

It had been long buzzing in the Bangladesh cricket team's tent that the series against Zimbabwe provided the Tigers an opportunity to taste the first-ever series victory abroad, even if it was against a dwindling side dwindling side.

And even nobody doubted the skipper's (Habibul Bashar) wish of a 'series whitewash' of the southern African nation before leaving home and most importantly coach Dav Whatmore, who always loves to play safe, was vocal by bracketing his side as 'favourites' in the contest, a comment that made internationals

And they had a decent start winning the lone practice game by five wickets. But all went wrong once the main battle started against a team, which had learnt just a day before the first match that they will play under a new captain (Prosper Jtseya) in the series.

Now just think that an unfancied Zimbabwe with a bunch of young and inexperienced cricketers have secured the series with one match to spare, leaving an 'improving' Bangladesh to answer a hundreds

There were many who hoped that Bangladesh would bounce back from their third-match nightmare to script another 'fightback" that they had showed against the same opponents at home to clinch their first-ever series victory. In January 2005, Bangladesh came back from 2-0 down to remarkably win the series 3-2 at home.

But it just proved to be an illusion as the Zimbabweans simply out-classed the self-proclaimed favour-ites in the fourth game to clinch the series following their two-wicket wins in the first and third matches. igladesh won the second match

Yet another series of poor applications by the batsmen dashed the

Tigers' hope to make comeback in the series. Stand-in skipper Khaled Mashud won the toss after Bangladesh's three abortive efforts but it could not bring anything posi-tive for them as they hit their lowest total in the series with 206-9 in stipulated 50 overs.

there were two senseless run-outs (Mohammad Ashraful and Forhad Reza), which virtually killed Bangladesh's chances of salvation.

On the other hand, Zimbabwe enhanced their performance with a decent batting to overhaul the total with 8.2 overs to spare and reach

Bangladesh, in every department, failed to serve the purpose in the series although they had promised before the tour that they would use the 'easy' trip to gain confidence before the ICC Champions Trophy to be held in India in October-November.

But the fact is that Bangladesh will definitely try to erase the memory of the tour as early as possible.

One might have been raised a valid question whether there was any need of a renowned and expensive coach and the large number of supporting staff the team carry for this kind of amateurish cricket played by the national cricketers.

If anybody is still ignorant about what has been happening, he or she can go through the scorecards of the last four matches to find how badly they have played in the series of high senirations. of high aspirations

#### **SCOREBOARD**

Scoreboard of the fourth one-day international between Bangladesh and Zimbabwe at the Harare Sports Club ground on Friday:

BANĞLADESH	
Saleh c Matsikenyeri b Rainsford	11
Nafees b Masakadza	45
Aftab c Utseya b Masakadza	27
Ashraful run out	6
Kapali c Sibanda b Utseya	10
Reza run out	30
Mashud c Rainsford b Ireland	20
Rafique c Sibanda b Utseya	0
Mortuza b Rainsford	23
Razzak not out	3
Shahadat not out	5
Extras: (b-1, lb-4, w-19, nb-2)	26
Total: (For 9 wkts in 50 overs)	206

Fall of wickets1-21, 2-73, 3-82, 4-102,

Masakadza 10 36 Matsikenyeri 5 0 18

#### ZIMBABWE Duffin c Mashud b Rafique Sibanda b Reza

24

46 Strydom c Ashraful b Razzak 58 Masakadza retired hurt 19 Matsikenyeri not out 26

27 Taylor not out Extras: (lb-6, w-5, nb-1) 12 Total: (For 3 wkts in 41.4 overs) 212 Did not bat: Chigumbura, Utseya,

Mahwire, Rainsford, Ireland Fall of wickets: 1-57, 2-91, 3-159

1 all 01 WICKCI3. 1-01, 2-01, 0-100					
Bowler	0	М	R	W	
Mortuza	6	0	24	0	
Shahadat	5	0	44	0	
Razzak	10	0	42	1	
Rafique	10	3	30	1	
Reza	4	0	19	1	
Kapali	3.4	0	30	0	
Saleh	3	0	17	0	
Dage 14 7 inch about 1000 by 7 ordale					

Result Zimbabwe won by 7 wick ets and clinched the series 3-1. Man-of-the-match: P Utseya.



South African batsman AB De Villiers pulls the ball during his innings of 95 on the first day of the second Test against Sri Lanka at the P Sara Stadium in

Murali brings SL back

boosted the total.

bat and ball

creditable.

hand the initiative back to the Sri

his return with an unbeaten 57 off

70 balls, sharing a last-wicket

stand of 34 with Makhaya Ntini that

Test due to the birth of his second

daughter, hit five boundaries and

two sixes before Ntini holded out

against Muralidaran after making

series-levelling win after being

thrashed by an innings and 153

runs in the first Test at the

Sinhalese sports club, in which

with the day's proceedings that

saw a fascinating contest between

day," said Sri Lanka's Australian

coach Tom Moody. "To take 10

wickets after losing the toss is very

bounce and is good for batting.

"The pitch has good carry and

Both camps appeared satisfied

"We are very happy with the

Muralidaran claimed 10 wickets.

South Africa are seeking a

Veteran Shaun Pollock marked

Pollock, who missed the first

### Noakhali, Gaibandha in finals

SPORTS REPORTER

Noakhali and Gaibandha became the last two teams to qualify for the final round of the Jubok Phone 23rd National Football Championship after winning their respective zonal finals vesterday

A 68-minute strike by former national midfielder Julfiqar Mahmud Mintu gave favourites Noakhali a 1-0 win over Rangamati in the Karnaphuli zone final at the Bandarban Stadium

stars Aminul. Arman and Alfaz in their roster, faced stiff resistance from the hill district but defied the 10,000-strong crowd at the hill tracts venue to go through.

Gaibandha, however, recorded a cakewalk victory in front of 15.000 home fans when they handed a 3-1 defeat on Thakurgaon in the Teesta

ahead after 18 minutes at the Gaibandha Stadium while Parvez doubled the lead before the break. Rubel sealed the victory in the 71st minute while Thakurgaon's consolation goal came one minute from time with Rabbani reducing the arrears. Noakhali and Gaibandha ioin

qualifiers Dhaka, Dhaka University, Khulna, Magura, Comilla, Tangail,

Noakhali, which had national

Ataur Rahman put the hosts

What we need now is a good start

Prince said 361 was a "good,

"We had decided not to get

competitive" score and looked for

bogged down by Muralidaran

because that is the only way to

play him," the South African cap-

tain said. "He may have got five

wickets again but we also man-

new ball will put is a good position.'

by his Indian-origin wife Melissa

from the stands, played a cap-

tain's knock with 13 boundaries

when he was caught behind off

De Villiers hit 18 fours during a

stroke-filled knock when a contro-

versial decision by New Zealand

umpire Billy Bowden ended his

stay five runs short of a fourth Test

Bowden gave the batsman

Muralidaran off the second deliv-

"A few early wickets with the

Left-handed Prince, watched

aged to get a good score.

ery after tea

century.

early breaks on the second day.

tomorrow (Saturday)."

## Pietersen plunders unlucky Pakistan

ANDARAM SEPRESTITIONS

Cricket

AFP. Headinglev

Kevin Pietersen rode his luck on the way to 101 not out as England rebuilt their innings on the first day of the third Test against Pakistan at Headingley here Friday

Shortly after tea, England were 247 for four with Pietersen completing his fifth Test hundred with a single. Ian Bell, going for his third hundred in as many Tests, was unbeaten on 13.

At tea, England were 224 for four after Pietersen, given not out on two when caught behind and caught off a no-ball on 29, had Together with Paul

Collingwood (31), Pietersen had put on 82 in 23 overs as England recovered after lunch. Pakistan heaten inside three

days during England's innings and 120-run victory in the second Test at Old Trafford, which put the hosts 1-0 up in the four-match series, had fought back well to reduce

their opponents to 110 for three at South Africa-born Pietersen to a

Bangladesh batsman Shahriar Nafees plays on the off-side against Zimbabwe during the fourth one-day international at the Harare Sports Club

Pietersen resumed on 17 not out after Alastair Cook (23), off the last ball before the break, was caught and bowled low down by pace bowler Umar Gul after the left-hander - who'd scored centuries in the first two Tests - got a leading edge.

Collingwood got off the mark in style by pulling Gul for six. Pace bowler Shahid Nazir, playing his first Test in seven years, thought he'd had Pietersen caught behind off the inside edge but Australian umpire Darrell Hair signalled a no-

Nazir, who'd earlier marked his return by taking one for 19 off eight overs, the batsmen ran after wicket-keeper Kamran Akmal threw the ball up in celebration.

To make matters worse for

Pietersen then lofted legspinner Danish Kaneria, who'd taken just seven wickets for 302 runs in the previous two Tests, over long-off for six before driving Nazir for two straight fours.

And a pulled four off Nazir took

Collingwood had looked untroubled until he miscued a pull off Gul and holed out to Taufeeq Umar at mid-wicket, leaving England at 192 for four in the 50th

Bell, who scored 100 not out in the drawn series opener at Lord's and an unbeaten 106 at Old Trafford, got off the mark with an off-driven four off Gul. Pietersen then damaged the

bowler's figures further by pulling a good length delivery for four before going down on one to cover-drive him for four. Umpire Billy Doctrove was then

forced to duck as Pietersen drove a low straight six off Kaneria England started briskly but lost

both their openers, Marcus Trescothick (28) and captain Andrew Strauss (36), who'd won the toss, with the score on 67 after they'd dominated the first hour.

But previously wayward paceman Mohammad Sami, struck in SEE PAGE 18 COL 2

## Asif set to rejoin team

REUTERS, Islamabad

Pace bowler Mohammad Asif will rejoin the Pakistan team in England before the fourth Test after passing a fitness test conducted by the Pakistan

Asif, who has taken 25 wickets in five Tests, returned home before the first Test at Lord's because of an elbow

"He bowled nine to 10 overs at full strech pain-free and hassle-free. He is being sent to England before the fourth Test at the Oval," board official Saleem Altaftold Reuters on Friday. Asif will play in the two-day game

from Aug. 12 to gain some match practice before the Test starting five days later. "I just hope that Shoaib Akhtar is also fit to play at the Oval and, hopefully, we can bring back Pakistan into

against the West Indies at Shenley

the series," Asif said "I felt comfortable bowling and the flow was there. I should be able fit to play the final Test. Pakistan have fielded a team

three leading pace bowlers, in the first Altaf ruled out any prospect of all rounder Shoaib Malik or Naved taking part in the final Test.

without Akhtar, Asif and Naved, their

The doctors say they still need time to recover from their injuries. For them the one-day series is the target,



Pakistan's Younis Khan (R) takes a splendid low catch off seamer Shahid Nazir to get rid of England captain Andrew Strauss during the first day of the third SEE PAGE 18 COL 2 Test at Headingley on Friday.