

### Bimal, Parveen awarded

Fastest man of South Asia and Bangladesh's pride sprinter Bimal Chandra Tarafdar will be sent abroad for higher training. State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadek Hossain said here yesterday, reports BSS.

Bimal would be accompanied by his teachers-cum-trainer former fastest woman of the country Sufia Khatun, he said.

The state minister was speaking as the chief guest at the reception, organised by Bangladesh Sports Journalists Association (BSJA) in honour of the best sportsman and sportswoman of Bangladesh in the Sixth SAF Games at the conference room of the National Sports Council.

Bimal and shooter Kazi Shahana Parveen were adjudged the best athletes in the recently concluded seven-nation Games.

Twenty-one year old Bimal, an intermediate student of the Bangladesh Krira Shikkha Protisthan (BKSP) in Savar, won the coveted 100 metres title, the only gold in athletics for the country.

The reception, chaired by BSJA president Masud Ahmed Rumi, also addressed by BOA Secretary General Bashir Ahmed, BSJA General Secretary Manjurul Hoq and two award recipients — Bimal Chandra Tarafdar and Kazi Shahana Parveen.

### Nat'l U-14 soccer begins today

Sports Reporter

Eight matches are scheduled to be held on the inaugural day of the Biman Cup national Under-14 football championship at different venues across the country today.

On the opening day, Moulvibazar will take on Brahmanbaria at Sunamganj, Chittagong take on Luximpur at Bandarban; Rajshahi play Sirajganj at Pabna; Nilfamari face Panchagarh at Gaibandha.

Dhaka play Shariatpur at Gopalganj, Jamalpur face Gazipur at Mymensingh and Bagerhat play Pirojpur at Patuakhali while at Satkhira Khulna face Narail.

Sixty one districts out of sixty four are taking part in this tournament sponsored by Bangladesh Biman.

The participating teams are: Sunamganj Zone — Moulvibazar, Habiganj, Sylhet, Comilla, Brahmanbaria and Chandpur DSA.

Bandarban Zone: Chittagong, Luximpur, Rangamati, Feni, Khagrachhari, Noakhali, Cox's Bazar and Bandarban DSA.

Pabna Zone: Pabna, Rajshahi, Sirajganj, Natore, Joypurhat, Nawabganj and Bogra DSA.

Gopalganj Zone: Gopalganj, Dhaka, Shariatpur, Faridpur, Madaripur, Munsiganj, Manikganj and Rajbari.

Mymensingh Zone: Mymensingh, Jamalpur, Gazipur, Kishoreganj, Netrakona, Sherpur and Narayanganj.

Patuakhali Zone: Bagerhat, Pirojpur, Bhola, Jhalakati, Barguna, Barisal and host Patuakhali.

Satkhira Zone: Khulna, Narail, Jhenedah, Chuadanga, Jessore, Meherpur, Kushtia, Magura and the host Satkhira.

Gaibandha Zone: Nilfamari, Panchagarh, Kurigram, Dinajpur, Lalmonirhat, Rangpur, Gaibandha and Thakurgaon.

### Tawfiq Aziz Khan condoles Johnston's death

Eminent sports commentator and journalist Tawfiq Aziz Khan yesterday expressed his deep shock and grief at the death of Brian Johnston, the doyen of cricket commentators, reports BSS.

He said for nearly 47 years Johnston had enthralled cricket lovers all over the world with his deep-throated voice, uncanny sense of humour and immense knowledge of the game.

TA Khan said he was the main attraction and the real spirit of the BBC Test Match Special Team.

He said since the retirement of John Arlott, "The voice of Summer" in 1980, Johnston took over the centre stage and became the "Voice of Cricket." Death has removed a very fascinating personality without whom cricket will not be the same again," he added.

### Rakib, Tipu lead table

Sports Reporter

Abdullah-al-Rakib of Narayanganj and Tipu Sultan jointly led the points table of the fourteenth national sub-junior chess championship at the chess room of the National Sports Council yesterday.

Both Rakib and Tipu earned four points at the end of the fourth round.

Rakib beat Faisal and Tipu beat Ruhul.

Arif, Mahfuz and Shakil all securing three and a half points — were in the second spot.



State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadek Hossain flanked by fastest man in South Asia Bimal Tarafdar (L) and shooter Kazi Shahana Parveen (R) who were adjudged the best athletes of the country in the Sixth SAF Games at a reception accorded by BSJA at the NSC conference room yesterday.

## Habib Bank, BCCB XI's bane

Sports Reporter

Habib Bank Limited ended Bangladesh Cricket Control Board XI's two-match winning streak when they defeated the visitors by six wickets in Lahore yesterday, according to a faxed message received at the BCCB office last night.

Habib Bank, boasting a number of former Pakistan international such as Zahid Fazal, Naveed Anjum and Akram Raza, had the match totally under control from the moment it started.

On the other hand BCCB XI, riding on their two-match success, began their fourth friendly of the ten-match package on the wrong foot, losing the first three batsmen very cheaply after having been sent in to bat first.

Jahangir Alam and Sajid Hassan managed one and five respectively while Selim Shahed, the stylish right-hander who notched up a superb 61 in the previous game against United Bank Limited on Wednesday, was sent back for no score.

Shahnawaz Shaheed Shanu, the sturdy dark batsman, however, did not quite fail with his

bat, following up Wednesday's half century with a gritty 27.

Faruque Ahmed, the skipper who is in the process of regaining his form, topped the run in the BCCB innings with 35 while former national captain Minhazul Abedin Nannu, coming in to bat at number six, also played his part in giving the total some sort of respectability with 28.

In reply, Habib Bank reached 143 for the loss of four wickets in the 35th over with wicketkeeper Tahir Rashid, who entered the record book even before playing Test cricket with nine dismissals in a domestic league last year, notching up the highest individual score of 56.

Zahid Fazal, the Pakistan Test-discard, and Mirza were at the crease on 16 and 28 respectively when the chase came to an end, with five more overs to spare.

Jahangir Bhatt, arid Naveed Anjum, the two openers, were also among runs making 18 and 21 respectively.

For BCCB XI Nannu bagged two wickets for 23 in his eight overs.

The Bangladeshi selection plays their fifth match of the 15-day tour against Inter-Globe XI in Karachi today.

Naveed Anjum, the fast-medium bowler who accompanied the Pakistani squad to the Wills Asia Cup cricket championship in Dhaka way back in 1988, Wahid Niaz and Nadim Ghouri claimed two wickets apiece as BCCB XI were all out for 142 in 37 overs.

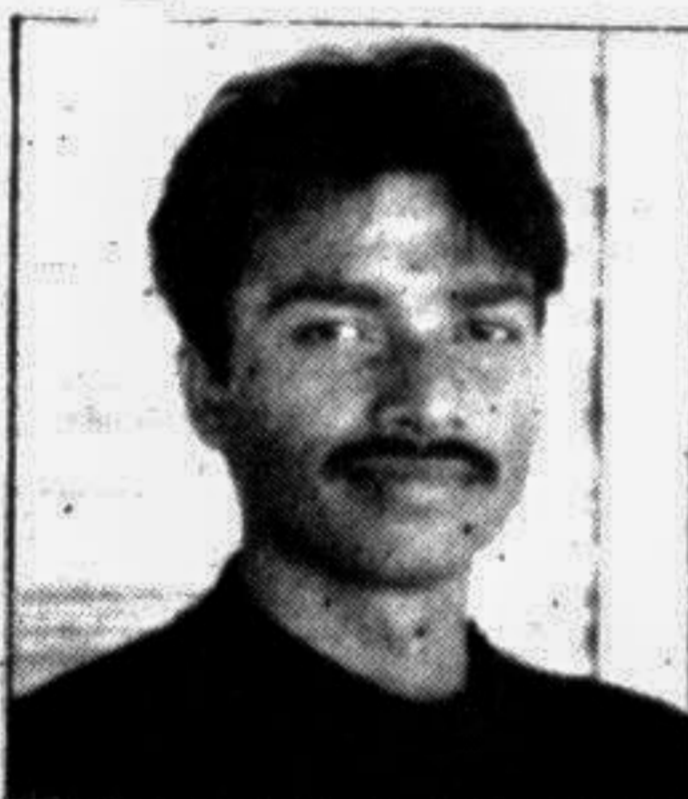
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FARUQUE... 35

Aminul Islam Bulbul and medium, paceman Anisur Rahman were the two other batsmen to have made double-digit scores of 12 and 11 respectively.

### For McDermott, it's nightmare revisited

SYDNEY, Jan 6: Australia's Craig McDermott has been on the losing side — and at the crease — in two of the closest decisions in Test cricket history, writes AP.

The Queensland state fast bowler was the last man out when Australia lost to the West Indies by one run in Adelaide last year — the closest finish in Test history.

On Thursday, he was at the non-striker's end when South Africa pulled off a five-run win at the Sydney Cricket Ground, the fourth-closest finish.

The 28-year-old batted bravely to top-score with an unbeaten 29 in Australia's dismal tally of 111, but said he had never considered defeat when he came to the crease at 75-8.

"Incredibly, just as at Adelaide last year, 42 runs were needed for victory when I was in the middle."

"I thought about Adelaide but this time I was going to win," McDermott said. "I've had two close ones but, hopefully, the next time we'll get through it."

"I was just determined that I wasn't going to get out and I was going to be there at the end."

The home side had taken 45 overs to reach 74-8 by the time McDermott came in to bat. The Australian batsmen seemed frozen by the pressure of the situation.

But McDermott opted for his normal game and hit out lustily, striking four boundaries and lofting several other shots straight down the ground.

"I knew we could win and it's the way I bat best," said McDermott. "When Marto (Marty) drove one to cover, that made it a bit hard but until then, I had no thoughts of losing at all."

McDermott said he had considered ignoring McGrath's run to protect him from the strike but decided that every run was vital with only six needed.

### DU cricket

Sports Reporter

Department of International Relations outclassed Department of Mass Communication and Journalism by 120 runs in the interdepartment cricket championship of Dhaka University at the Jagannath Hall cricket ground yesterday.

Atiq hampered 79 as IR batting first amassed 172 for eight wickets from their quota of 30 overs.

Utpal with two for 23 was the pick of the bowlers for journalism.

Journalism were all out for 52 in 22.2 overs with Raihan being the only batsman to reach double figures with 19.

Atiq of IR bagged two for nine runs.

### Stich crashes out too

DOHA, Qatar, Jan 6: Low-ranked challengers knocked off the top two players in the world, Pete Sampras and Michael Stich, Wednesday in stunning upsets in the \$25,000 Qatar Open tennis tournament, reports AP.

Moroccan player Karim Alami, ranked 204th, pulled off the day's first surprise by prevailing over Sampras, of the United States, in a tense first-round battle 6-6, 6-2, 6-4.

Then, Haiti's Ronald Agenor, ranked 79th in the world, defeated Germany's Stich 5-7, 6-4, 6-4 in two hours and four minutes in a second-round match.

"The defeats mean that only two of the eight seeded players here have made it to the quarterfinals — No 3 seed Stefan Edberg of Sweden and Croatia's Goran Ivanisevic, seeded fourth."

"I had nothing to lose today and he was not on top of his game at all," said the 29-year-old Agenor, who had already beaten Stich in their only previous meeting on clay at Stuttgart, Germany, in 1989.

## SA record historic win over Aussies as

# De Villiers rages storm



SYDNEY, Jan 6: South Africa sounded a warning they are now firmly back in international cricket with a historic five-run win against Australia in the second Test today, reports Reuter.

It was the South Africans' third but most important victory in 10 Tests since being accepted back into the world cricket arena after the scrapping of apartheid. They have already beaten India and Sri Lanka.

Australia appeared set to scrape a victory, requiring only 54 runs on the fifth and final day with six wickets in hand. But South Africa's pacemen had other ideas.

Fanie de Villiers blitzed the Australians, notching figures of six wickets for 43 runs and appropriately picking up the final wicket, caught and bowled, when Australia were a nailbiting six runs short of victory.

The 15,000 crowd, allowed in free to the Sydney Cricket Ground for what they expected to be a formality, were stunned.

Captain Kepler Wessels, substituted in the field after breaking a finger to add to an already damaged knee, could only watch just before preparing to leave for home for his wounds to heal.

"At least I'm going out on a winning note," he said. South Africa, who go 1-0 up in the three Test series after a first-Test draw, were all out for 169 and 239 in their two innings. Australia scored 292 in their first innings.

There should not have been a dramatic finale, even allowing for a hard, dead wicket taking spin, because Australia, when they went into bat after tea on the fourth day, needed only 117 to win and four sessions of play to get them.

But the home side lost four wickets in the tea session. Omnominously, South Africa got the breakthrough they wanted in the first over of the final day, paceman Allan Donald bowling captain Allan Border (7) with his fourth ball, leaving Australia on 63 for five wickets.

Border was the one we wanted. He has saved his side

yorker from Donald. Six wickets down.

Then de Villiers added a fifth wicket to his four from the previous day, bowling Ian Healy (1) to make the total seven wickets for 73 runs, still 44 short of victory.

Then Shane Warne (1) was brilliantly run out with the total on 75.

Damien Martyn had hit the ball to deep cover, from where Cronje scored a direct hit on the stumps to make it eight wickets down with Warne well out of his ground going for a second run.

Martyn (6) was then caught in the deep by Andrew Hudson off Donald to make the total 110 for nine and seven runs were needed to win when paceman McGrath joined McDermott. McGrath (1), renowned as one of the poorest batsmen in first class cricket in Australia, was caught and bowled by De Villiers and it was all over.

Border was disconsolate. "I've played in three of the closest Test match losses in history," he said.

He was captain when the West Indies beat Australia by one run in Adelaide in the 1992/93 season and played when England beat Australia by three runs in Melbourne in 1982/83.

"It would be nice to win one of these tight ones," he said.

Leg spinner Shane Warne had been Australia's hero, taking 12 wickets in the match, but his effort proved in vain.

The rain-affected first Test in Melbourne was drawn. The third and final Test will be played in Adelaide starting January 28.

Australia, now playing the first series against South Africa for 23 years, will then travel to South Africa for a three-Test series starting in March.

**SCOREBOARD**  
Scoreboard on the fifth and final day of the second cricket Test between Australia and South Africa at the Sydney Cricket Ground today.

**SOUTH AFRICA:** First Innings 169 (Warne 7/56; Kirsten 67).

**AUSTRALIA:** First Innings 292 (Slater 92; De Villiers 4/80)

**SOUTH AFRICA:** Second Innings 239 (Warne 5/72; Rhodes 76 n.o.)

**AUSTRALIA:** Second Innings (Overnight 63 for four wickets)  
Slater b De Villiers 1  
Taylor c Richardson b De Villiers 27

Boon c Kirsten b De Villiers 24  
May lbw b De Villiers 40  
Waugh lbw b Donald 11  
Border b Donald 7

Martyn c Hudson b Donald 6  
Healy b De Villiers 1  
Warne run out 1  
McDermott not out 29  
McGrath c and b De Villiers 3

Extras: (lb-3) 1  
Total: 111  
Fall of wickets: 1-4, 2-51, 3-51, 4-56, 5-63, 6-72, 7-73, 8-75, 9-110.

**Bowling** O M R W  
Donald 17 5 34 3  
De Villiers 23.3 8 43 6  
Matthews 6 5 9 0  
Symcox 10 3 22 0

**Result: South Africa won by five runs**  
The first Test in Melbourne was drawn

The third and final Test begins in Adelaide on January 28.



South African fast bowler Fanie de Villiers (top) is chaired off by acting captain Hansie Cronje after taking the final wicket to win the second Test against Australia in Sydney yesterday. The win was South Africa's first since their return to international cricket.

When last man Glenn McGrath was out; tearful South African officials jumped up and down and hugged each other while joyful players carried De Villiers from the field.

"To beat Australia in Australia must be one of the best feelings in Test cricket," said De Villiers, who also took four first innings wickets and was named man-of-the-match.

It was the first time South Africa had beaten Australia in a Test in Sydney and ranked among the closest Tests among all countries.

With the total on 72, Mark Waugh (11) was trapped by a

### Border disappointed



SYDNEY, Jan 6: Australian captain Allan Border believes his side froze in its chase for 117 runs to win the second cricket Test against South Africa here on Thursday, reports AFP.

Border said all players, except pace bowler Craig McDermott, had created extra pressure for themselves by going into their shells.

Border said an air of defeat

had pervaded the dressing room once the collapse was underway.

"You get into these tight situations and you almost expect to lose and that's a very bad attitude to have," Border said.

"For 95 per cent of the time, the batsman do a tremendous job but we're letting ourselves down in these tight ones."

"You have to back yourself a little bit more."

"We had a lot of overs and the batsmen weren't getting anywhere."

"Every time we've come a gutser in these games, the batting hasn't been positive enough."

Border himself offered no shot to Donald while young West Australian Damien Martyn poked a leaden-footed drive to cover after spending 106 minutes over six singles.

"We all had our opportunities and weren't up to it," Border said.

"The way Craig McDermott approached his batting was probably a lesson for all of us."

"We have to look at how we approach these last day targets."

"They are seemingly very gettable but we make such hard work of it."

Border has now been on the losing side in three of the four closest matches in Test history, adding this game to a one-run loss to the West Indies at Adelaide last year and a three-run loss to England at the MCG in 1982-83.

If that was not enough, he also played in the tied Test against India at Madras in 1986-87.

"It would be nice to win one of these tight ones."

## SA oldies on emotional high



CAPE TOWN, Jan 6: South African cricketers of all generations were on an emotional high on Thursday after their coun-

try's historic five-run victory over Australia in the second Test at Sydney, reports Reuter.

Former all-rounder Eddie Barlow, who played against Australia 14 times in his 30 Tests, predicted the win when commenting for a television station.

Before Australia began their second innings Barlow said: "I just have a funny feeling about this. I'm really looking forward to the next couple of hours of cricket. I really think we can do it. I just have a feeling."

After victory was completed he said with a smile: "I am a genius. But seriously, I've played a lot of cricket and the ingredients were there. First, there was a low score to chase. Second they had a day and a third to chase it and third there was the wicket."

"As soon as batsmen begin to drag their heels it is the kiss of death. The wicket as we saw it was impossible to score freely on but South Africa's bowlers were magnificent. They have never let us down."

"South Africa were dead and buried in their second innings at 102 for five but then Jonty (Rhodes) and Dave Richardson batted very well. Even when we got two awful (umpiring) decisions it didn't seem to affect the

team. It was actually while Jonty and (Allan) Donald were adding 30 for the last wicket that I thought we would win. That must have been a body blow for the Aussies."

Barlow had words of caution for both sides while encouraging the South African team to enjoy their moment of victory to the full when he said: "We will lose games like this in the future. We're not on a rocket to the moon."

He then queried Australia's preparation of the Sydney pitch.

"We really have to be careful about preparing 'designer wickets'. People tell us Sydney is a turning wicket but a couple of weeks ago it was a green seamer."

"They turned it into a spinner's wicket and it backfired. It exploded on them. They must be absolutely devastated... I

### Div II soccer

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Police earned an exciting 3-2 victory over BJC in the Sonali Bank Second Division football league at the Hockey stadium yesterday.

Goal from Saiful, Khurshed and Saidur gave the winners a 3-1 lead in the first half.

Azad and Mizan netted once each to reduce the margin for the losers.

Shantinagar Club beat City Club 1-0 in another game.

Siraj scored the lone goal for Shantinagar.

think we'll probably win the third Test now as well."

Meanwhile, Barlow's team-mate during the last series between the two countries in 1969-70, wicketkeeper-batsman Denis Lindsay, described the win as: "Absolutely fantastic... I can't believe it. I sat up all night to watch it and was transfixed."

"I spoke to (former team-mate) Tiger Lance early this morning just before it started and we both said we thought they could win. Was I proud? I had a bit of a cry and a lump in my throat well before that."

"Anybody would think Australia had been in isolation for 23 years not South Africa. I do feel sorry for Kepler Wessels, but Hansie Cronje was brilliant."

Former South African captain Clive Rice added: "It was so, so exciting, for the first Test match since our return there seemed to be communication, direction and above all imagination."

"But I think Australia got it all wrong. Allan Border was absolutely correct to ask for the wicket to be prepared like it was. (Shane) Warne took 12 wickets in the Test. What more could you ask?"

"But chasing a small target they should have put (Ian) Healy or (Craig) McDermott in at number three to play a few shots. If they had, then chasing 117 would have been no contest."

## Mnemonic mutation



SYDNEY, Jan 6: South Africa used the memory of a close Test loss to the West Indies to pull off a stunning five-run win over Australia, captain Kepler Wessels said Thursday, reports AP.

Last year, South Africa started the final day of a one-off Test against the West Indies in Barbados needing 79 runs with eight wickets in hand, but could manage only another 26 and lost by 52 runs.

On Thursday, it was a case of sweet revenge, even if against different opponents. Wessels admitted it was probably better that his fledgling side had lost in the Caribbean.

"I don't think we will ever forget that," Wessels said of the loss to the West Indies. "But to a certain extent this makes up for it a little bit."

"Maybe in the long run if we did win that game it may not have been that good for our cricket because I'm not sure whether we would have worked

as hard between then and now."

Much has been written and said of the South Africans' never-say-die attitude. Wessels acknowledged that was what prevailed at the end of a gripping Test match which drew more than 100,000 spectators over the five days.

"In our setup we're a small nation and we don't have the depth of Australian cricket," Wessels said. "Fighting spirit and having a go is really what we have to do."

"With 117 you know that you have to play above yourself to win it and that's exactly what happened. From the time we got Allan (Border) out I thought we were in with a real chance."

Wessels did not field in the second innings because of a broken finger. He will fly home on Friday to recover in time for Australia's tour of South Africa next month.

"For me, as captain of the South African side, it has to be the best win that we've had and probably the highlight of my career."



China's Zhong Weiyue holds on to the lane marker after breaking the world record in 100-metre women's butterfly at the second leg of the 1994 World Cup short-course swimming series in Beijing on January 5. Zhong clocked 58.71 seconds.

### Champak, Howra chess champ

Sports Reporter

Kadamatala Sangsad and Gandaria Famous split points in the Pragati Insurance Third Division football league at the Mirpur Stadium yesterday.

Ataur scored once for Kadamatala while Zahir replied for Gandaria.