

Column One

DID U' KNOW?

(The Professor does)

THAT Victoria scored 1107 runs in ten hours and thirty minutes against New South Wales in an Australian Sheffield Shield match at Melbourne on December 27-28, 1926.

Has anybody been tampering with the record books, the event having taken place so long ago? Wait till you hear this. England scored 903 runs for seven declared in 15 hours 17 minutes against none other than their Ashes rivals, Australia, at the Oval, London, on August 20, 22 and 23, 1938.

We have better bowlers and fielders these days to put a stop to such inanity.

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN
Competition-110

✓ Tick the Correct Answers
Post to The Daily Star
Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm
Feb 5 '99 and draw shortly afterwards

1. The margin of Australia's recent Ashes series win was	3-1	4-1	4-0
2. Who is the number one player in women's tennis at the moment?	Hingis	Lindsay	Venus
3. The final of the 1st Asian Test Championship will be held in	Dhaka	Calcutta	Colombo
4. The eighth SAF Games will be held in	India	Sri Lanka	Nepal
5. How many teams are taking part in the Janakantha Premier cricket league?	10	12	14

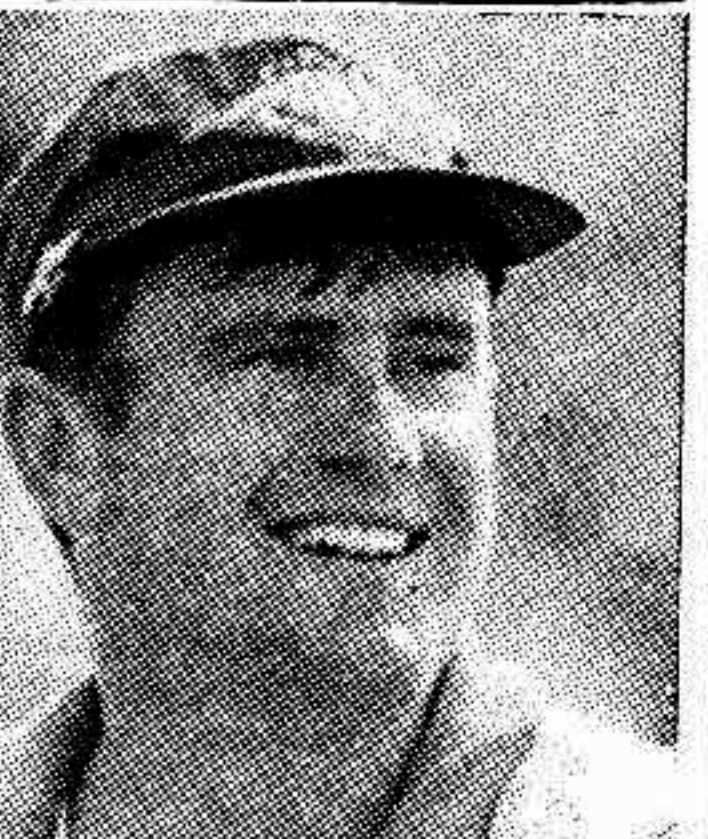
Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (if any)

SPORTS TALK



Mark Taylor
(Australia's Test team captain)
"Sometimes, a team needs this kind of shock but I don't like it when I'm captain."

After Australia lost the Melbourne Test in the Ashes series.

Mymensingh cricket

MYMENSINGH, Jan 30: Ratan Sangsad defeated Mukul Fouaj Sabuj by three wickets in the Mymensingh First Division cricket league at the Circuit House ground today, reports UNB.

Batting first, Mukul Fouaj scored 167 for nine in the stipulated 40 overs.

Musa made 35 and Pika added 28 runs. Ujjal picked up three wickets giving away 28 runs.

In reply, Ratan Sangsad reached the target of 168 runs losing seven wickets in 38 overs.

Mayna hammered 64 and Bishaw scored 33 runs. Sumon and Pika took two wickets each for 26 and 29 runs respectively.

Barisal cricket

From Staff Correspondent
BARISAL, Jan 30: Shaheed Sentu-Rintu Smriti Sangha defeated KCC Juba Sangha by seven wickets in the First Division cricket league here at the local stadium today.

Batting first KCC Juba Sangha scored 120 in 32.2 overs losing all. Kallol scored the highest 31 runs.

In reply, SSR Smriti Sangha scored 123 losing only 3 wickets in 26.4 overs. Ripon scored the highest 32 and took 3 wickets. He adjudged 'man-of-the-match'.

Tomorrow Cricket Kheloar Kalyan Samity will face Barisal Cricket Institute at the same venue.

Neeyamur digs deep to save AKC

Sports Reporter

A magnificent 83 from lower middle-order batsman Neeyamur Rashid helped holders Abahani garner a defendable total against arch-rivals Mohammedan Sporting Club in a crucial Janakantha Premier League match at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

In front of a strong band of spectators, Neeyamur stepped forward to do the gritty rescue act as Abahani, who lost half of their wickets for only 100 runs, recovered to score 266 before being all out in 76 overs.



Electing to bat first on a perfect batting track, Abahani were soon awe-stricken in the face of some fine bowling display of Mohammedan. The popular Dhanmondi outfit lost four top-order batsmen for only 58 runs in 17.3 overs.

Situation even worsened for the defending champions when opener Mehrab Hossain, the last recognised batsman of Abahani, returned to the dressing room in the first over after the lunch break, with the scoreboard reading at 17 for six in 31 overs. Mehrab scored 46.

The young right-hander, who clobbered three boundaries off right-arm seamer Ashfaqe Ali, perished in that eventful over while gunning for the fourth one. He was caught by Nasirul at backward square leg while trying to smash it over mid-wicket.

The fall of Mehrab should sound the final whistle for Abahani. But much to the frustration of Mohammedan supporters, Neeyamur, a matured head on a young shoulder, rose to occasion with a dazzling batting display, dead-lifting Abahani from the mire to a respectability.

Known for his exploits when chips are down, the Abahani saviour, with the help of tail-enders, mixed caution with aggression to operate the spectacular recovery act.

Neeyamur put on 40 runs with wicketkeeper Nuruzzaman for the seventh wicket and then added another 35 runs with Hasibul. The eighth wicket partnership was however dominated by Hasibul, who scored 24 runs off 42 balls with a huge six and two fours.

But the most remarkable partnership in the Abahani innings came when Iqbal joined Neeyamur. Together, the two mustered 70 runs that helped Abahani cross 250-mark in the 68th over.

The partnership ended at 262 when Neeyamur was caught by Rashedul Haque off the bowling of Selim Shahed at the long-on boundary.

In his more than three-hour stay at the crease, Neeyamur faced 118 balls, hit eight fours and a six.

Earlier, in the morning, Abahani slipped into deep trouble while negotiating some fired-up bowling of Mohammedan skipper Mohammad Rafique and the new-ball pair of Ashfaqe Ali and Manjurul Islam.

Left-arm spinner Rafique made the initial breakthrough by trapping opener Hannan Sarkar (24) leg before in the ninth over. Manjurul then sent one-down Azam Iqbal back for 5 forcing the right-hander edge to the wicketkeeper.

Naimur Rahman scored only one run before being adjudged leg before off a straight delivery from Ashfaqe Ali. While his skipper Akram Khan followed

suit tracking the identical one run giving an edge to a Manjurul out-swing.

Pakistani all-rounder Mohammad Hussain, who scored 30 off 43 balls, was next to go in the 29th over when he tried to sweep Rafique, only to miss the line giving an easy catch to Mortuza. The Mohammedan stumper had had a happy day with four catches.

Manjurul Islam was the most successful bowler with a haul of four wickets for 77. Rafique and Ashfaqe evenly shared four wickets conceding

Abahani v Mohammedan SC

(Venue: Bangabandhu National Stadium)

ABAHANI

Hannan lbw b Rafique	24
Mehrab c Nasir b Ashfaqe	46
Azam c Mortuza b Manjurul	5
Naimur lbw b Ashfaqe	1
Akram Khan c Mortuza b Manjurul	1
M Hossain c Mortuza b Rafique	30
Neeyamur c Rashedul b S Shahed	82
Nuruzzaman c Mortuza b Manjurul	15
Hasibul c H Shah b Manjurul	24
Iqbal not out	17
M Rana run out	2
Extras (lb-8, w-11)	19



STAKING A CLAIM: Abahani's top scorer Neeyamur Rashid sets off for a run during yesterday's Janakantha Premier Division Cricket League match against Mohammedan. —Star photo by Anisur Rahman



MANJURUL ... 4/77

30 and 65 runs.

In the other match at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium, Agrani Bank managed to score a fighting total against promotes Orient Sporting Club.

Sent into bat, the bankers scored 272 for nine in their share of 80 overs with Pakistani middle-order SI Jheen Malik hammering highest, 61.

Among others, opener Sazzadul Karim and Mofizur Rahman scored 41 runs each.

Scoreboards of the two Janakantha Premier Division cricket league matches began at different city venues yesterday.

Total: (All out in 76 overs) 266
Fall of wickets: 1-41; 2-52; 3-57; 4-58; 5-100; 6-117; 7-157; 8-192; 9-262.

Bowler:

O	M	R	W	
Manjurul	16	0	77	4
Ashfaqe	14	0	65	2
Rafique	16	3	30	2
Odumbe	15	3	39	0
Tikolo	9	1	26	0
S Shahed	6	1	21	1

Agrani Bank v Orient SC
(Venue: Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium)

AGRANI BANK

S Kadir c Mridul b Aminul	2
Sazzad b Mizan	41
Saleh lbw b Reaz	21
S Malik c Azim b Sohul	61
Ziauddin not out	31
Mofizur c Mofizul	41
Zakaria c Azim b Sohul	0
Jamal run out	30
Dolin b Mizan	14
Suja run out	12
Russell not out	1
Extras (lb-5, lb-3, nb-1, w-9)	18
Total: (for 9 wickets in 80 overs)	272

Fall of wickets: 1-13; 2-48; 3-101; 4-180; 5-180; 6-198; 7-219; 8-251; 9-268.

Bowler:

O	M	R	W	
Mizan	16	3	50	2
Aminul	7	2	20	1
Akhteruiddin	10	2	32	0
Reaz	16	2	54	1
Sohul	15	1	54	2
Mofizul	16	1	54	1

Sohail leaves
Former Pakistan skipper and all-rounder Aamir Sohail returned home last night without registering himself with Abahani in the Janakantha Premier Division cricket league, reports BSS.

MSC opt to skip hockey meet
Mohammedan Sporting Club has refused to participate in the forthcoming Shaheed Smriti hockey tournament citing time constraints for preparation.

The tournament is scheduled to start on February 15 at the Moulana Bhasani Stadium.

This was revealed by Bangladesh Hockey Federation joint-secretary Zahidur Rahman Pushkin yesterday.

A total of 12 teams including eight Premier Division clubs have been invited to take part in the knockout tournament.

The four other teams are Army, Navy, Air Force and First Division league champions Bangladesh Sporting Club.

When contacted last night, Mohammedan hockey committee secretary Sajid M Adel said that Mohammedans decided not to take part in the tournament considering lack of preparation.

"We have only 15 days or so for the preparation. That is not enough for a big club like Mohammedan. We will begin our hockey campaign right from the Premier league, which will start from March 8," said Adel.

SA crush Windies

Sports Reporter

West Indies hurtled to their third defeat in the seven-match one-day series against hosts South Africa yesterday, who romped home with a 99-run victory at St. George's Park in Port Elizabeth, according to Star Sports monitored here.

Batting first, South Africa piled up a huge 278 for six in the fourth match. Herschelle Gibbs slammed a magnificent 125, the first ton of the right-hander in the abridged version of the game. Skipper Hansie Cronje hammered 74.

For the tourists, veteran all-rounder Keith Arthurton took four wickets for 56 runs.

In reply, the Caribbean's were skittled out for 170 in the 42nd over. Only Hooper, the stand-in captain for injured Brian Lara, scored an enterprising 65.

The hosts are leading the series 3-1.

BKSP refuses BFF permission

Sports Reporter

Twenty five out of thirty one booters called up for the South Asian Federation (SAF) Games national camp, reported at the BFF office yesterday.

But they had to return home as the BFF failed to ensure training at the BKSP, where the residential camp was due to start from today.

It was learnt that the BKSP authorities in Savar are owed more than Taka six lakh from the governing body of local football. And unless the amount is paid up they will not permit BFF use of its facilities in future.

The training under the aegis of newly-appointed Iraqi coach Shamir Shakir will now start at the Sher-e Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur.

The six absentees were striker Maksudul Amin Rana, Masud Rana, Moni, Rajani, Lajuk and Rajani.

Lankan U-19 cricketers to tour India

COLOMBO, Jan 30: A Sri Lankan under-19 cricket team will tour India for a month beginning February 14 to play three unofficial Tests and an equal number of one-day games, cricket officials said Saturday, reports AP.

The first Test will be held in the west Indian city of Baroda from Feb. 21-24, followed by second Test at the north Indian city of Mohali Feb. 28 to March 4. The final Test will be played in Kanpur, a central Indian industrial city March 6-11.

The three one-day games will be played at Gwalior, Jaipur and New Delhi. The dates for the one-day games are being finalized.

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AFC coach arrives

Sports Reporter

Ichiro Fujita, an AFC coach from Japan, arrived yesterday on a three-week visit to Bangladesh.

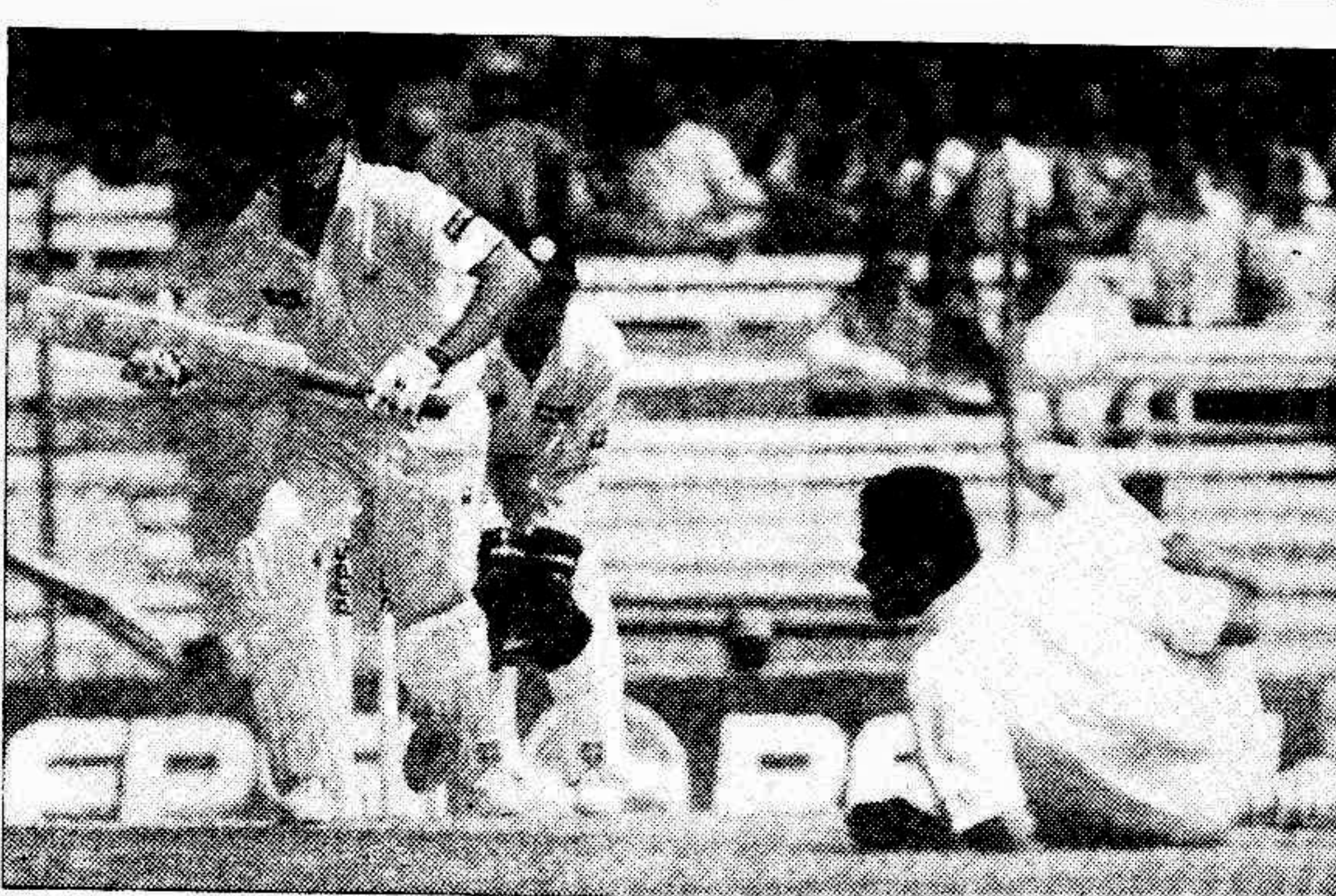
During his stay, Ichiro will impart training to local coaches. He is scheduled to leave for Chuadanga for a week. Besides, Ichiro will exchange ideas with coaches of different clubs in the capital.

Nat'l jr chess

Sports Reporter

Seven players are jointly leading in the 20th national junior chess championships securing full three points after the third round matches at the NSC chess room yesterday, reports UNB.

The leaders are - Enamul Hossain Rajib, Ruhul Islam Boby, Siraj Ahmed, Golam Mustafa, Debaraj Chetartjee, Abdul Bari and Jewel.



ON FIRE: Pakistan centurion Shahid Afridi places the ball past a diving Anil Kumble during the third day of the first Test against India yesterday. —AP/UNB photo

Prasad steals Afridi's thunder Topsy-turvy Day Three

MADRAS, Jan 30:

Sachin Tendulkar stood against Pakistan's emphatic march towards victory in the first Test after a dramatic third day's play before a sell-out crowd at the Chepauk here today, reports AFP.

India, set a victory target of 271 on the uneven wicket, lost both openers cheaply for six before Tendulkar and Rahul Dravid carried them to 40-2 by stumps.

Tendulkar, who failed to score in the first innings, was unbeaten on 20 and Dravid was on eight to set up a needed finish to Pakistan's first Test on Indian soil in 12 years.

On a day of fluctuating fortunes, Shahid Afridi scored a monumental 141, his maiden Test century, to lift Pakistan to a seemingly impregnable position at 275-4 shortly after tea.

But lanky seamer Venkatesh Prasad created havoc with five wickets off 18 balls without conceding a run as Pakistan lost their last six batsmen for 11 runs to be bowled out for 296.

Paceman Waqar Younis then removed India's latest opening pair of Sadagopan Ramesh and Venkat Laxman in his second and third overs, before Tendulkar and Dravid played out the final moments in front of 40,000 tense home fans.

"It's going to be a great finish to a great game," said Pakistani captain Wasim Akram. "We are confident of winning from here."

Indian skipper Mohammad Azharuddin responded: "There's a lot left in this game yet because we have a good batting line-up."

Afridi, better known for scoring one-day game's fastest century off 37 balls, showed remarkable patience in only his second Test match.

The 18-year-old batted for six hours, hitting 21 boundaries and three sixes, to notch up the only century so far in the bowler-dominated game.

Afridi added a run-a-minute stand of 97 for the third wicket with Inzamamul Haq (51) and 106 for the sixth with Salim Malik to bolster Pakistan before Prasad struck.

Left-arm spinner Sunil Joshi began the rot when he had Malik snapped up smartly by Dravid at slip for 32.

Prasad, moving the old ball both ways and getting unusual lift, proved unplayable after forcing Moin Khan to edge an easy catch to rival wicketkeeper Nayan Mongia.

He then uprooted Afridi's leg-stump as the batsman attempted a swipe and two balls later trapped Saqlain Mushtaq leg-before.

Akram hooked Prasad down Joshi's throat at deep square leg and Younis drove a catch to

mid-off to end the innings. Pakistan, trailing by 16 runs on the first innings, lost just two wickets in the morning session to take their overnight score of 34-1 to Inzamam's 55-3 by lunch.

Afridi and Inzamam prospered against some untidy bowling by the Indians after Pakistan lost the important wicket of Ijaz Ahmed soon after the start of play.

The tense struggle between bat and ball was marred by two controversial decisions by New Zealand umpire Steve Dunne against the Pakistanis.

Ijaz, who did not add to his overnight score of 11, stood his ground when he patted a ball back to bowler Anil Kumble, believing he had hit it on the bounce.

Play was held up for five

minutes as Dunne first consulted square-leg umpire Venkat Ramaswamy and then the television umpire in the pavilion before giving the batsman out.

Ijaz was then unfortunate to be given out caught at silly point in Tendulkar's first over just before lunch as replays showed the ball had hit the flap of the pad — instead of the bat.

Afridi reached his maiden half-century by lofting Joshi for a six and celebrated the feat by smashing another six off Kumble.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at stumps on the third day of the first Test between India and Pakistan on Saturday:

PAKISTAN: First innings 238

INDIA: First innings 254 (Gaugly 54, Dravid 53; Saqlain 5-94)

PAKISTAN: Second innings (overnight 34-1)

Anwar lbw b Prasad	7
Afridi b Prasad	141
Ijaz c and b Kumble	11
Inzamam c Laxman b Tendulkar	51
Youhana b Tendulkar	26
Malik c Dravid b Joshi	32
Moin c Mongia b Prasad	3

INDIA: Second innings (overnight 11-0)

Prasad	6	1	24	0
Waqar	6	4	7	2
Afridi	4	3	2	0
Saqlain	3	1	5	0

INDIA: Second innings (overnight 11-0)

Prasad	6	1	24	0
Waqar	6	4	7	2
Afridi	4	3	2	0
Saqlain	3	1	5	0

Akram c Joshi b Prasad

Saqlain lbw b Prasad

Nadeem not out

Waqar c Ramesh b Prasad

Extras: (lb-1, lb-4, nb-3)

Total: (All out in 71.2 overs) 296

Fall of wickets: 1-11; 2-42; 3-139; 4-169; 5-275; 6-278; 7-279; 8-279; 9-280

Bowler

O	M	R	W	
Srinath	16	1	68	0
Prasad	102	5	33	6
Kumble	22	4	93	1
Joshi	14	3	42	1
Tendulkar	7	1	35	2
Laxman	2	0	10	0

INDIA: Second innings

Ramesh c Inzamam b Waqar

Laxman lbw b Waqar

Dravid not out

Tendulkar not out

Extras: (nb-5, lb-2)

Total: (for two wickets in 19 overs) 40

Fall of wickets: 1-5; 2-6.

Bowler

O	M	R	W	
Akram	6	1	24	0
Waqar	6	4	7	2
Afridi	4	3	2	0
Saqlain	3	1	5	0

Probe to resume after series

KARACHI, Jan 30: A Pakistani judicial probe into allegations of match-fixing will resume after Pakistani team returns from their tour of India, official sources said today, reports AFP.

The one-man judicial commission of judge Malik Mohammad Qayyum has accordingly delayed a scheduled sitting in Lahore, the said.