



## Colonial cousins draw swords today.

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## Minhaz saves the blushes

From Nizamuddin Ahmed

EDINBURGH, May 24: If you wanted to see all four seasons in an hour, Edinburgh's Grange Cricket Club on Monday was the place. It was cold, wet and windy conditions under which your might want to curl up in front of a fireplace instead of being at a cricket match. It was not surprising that the stalls were half filled.

The wicket was harder than usual because there had been some dry days ahead of the match. The baked, bone-dry, grassy wicket gave unusual bounce to the wicket, particularly at the pavilion-end, which turned opening bowler John Blain into a villain.

Scotland won the toss and you would expect, with their inside knowledge of how the Grange wicket behaves early on in a match on a day as windy and wet as this, skipper George Salmon put Bangladesh in.

Bangladesh were dead and almost buried in the first ten overs until Naimur Rahman and Minhajul Abedin played a duet to resuscitate the innings.

See page 14



ELASTIC: Bangladesh opener Mehrab Hossain evading a bouncer from Scottish paceman John Blain at Edinburgh yesterday. -AFP photo



### BANGLADESH-SCOTLAND SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the Bangladesh innings against Scotland at Edinburgh yesterday:

BANGLADESH	R	B	4	6
Khaled Mashud c Philip b Blain	0	9	0	0
Mehrab Hossain c Dyer b Asim Butt	3	19	0	0
Faruk Ahmed b Blain	7	25	1	0
Aminul Islam lbw b Blain	0	1	0	0
Akram Khan c Philip b Asim Butt	0	14	0	0
Minhajul Abedin not out	68	118	6	0
Naimur Rahman c Stanger b Brinkley	36	57	5	0
Khaled Mahmud c Salmond b Dyer	0	4	0	0
Enamul Hoque c Philip b Dyer	19	40	1	0
Hasibul Hussain c&b Blain	6	17	0	0
Manjurul Islam not out	2	7	0	0
Extras: (lb-5, w-28, nb-11)	44			
Total: (For 9 wickets in 50 overs)	185			

Fall of wkt: 1-6 (Khaled Mashud, 2.3 ov) 2-12 (Mehrab Hossain, 5.3 ov); 3-13 (Aminul Islam, 6.1 ov) 4-24 (Akram Khan, 9.4 ov); 5-26 (Faruk Ahmed, 10.3 ov); 6-95 (Naimur Rahman, 29.4 ov); 7-96 (Khaled Mahmud, 30.6 ov); 8-133 (Enamul Hoque, 40.5 ov); 9-164 (Hasibul Hussain, 46.6 ov).

Bowler O M R W

Blain	10	1	37	4 (9-nb, 6-w)
Asim Butt	9	1	24	2 (8-w)
Hamilton	10	3	25	0 (2-nb, 5-w)
Brinkley	10	0	45	1 (4-w)
Stanger	4	0	23	0 (1-w)
Dyer	7	1	26	2 (2-w)

Toss: Scotland.  
Umpires: KT Francis (SL) and DL Orchard (SA)  
TV Umpire: B Dudleyton (Eng).  
Match Referee: JR Reid (NZ).

See page 14



Bangladesh captain Aminul Islam looks down dejected after falling lbw to John Blain (2nd from R) yesterday. -AFP photo



ALEC STEWART

jinx team, having won five of their six one-day confrontations.

Worse still for the tournament hosts, they go into Tues-

day's crunch match against Zimbabwe at Trent Bridge fresh from being decimated by South Africa.

That 122-run defeat - or "hammering", as chief selector David Graveney put it - was so bruising that England have asked sports psychologist Steve Bull to clear his couch in case the players feel they need help to cope with the Oval trauma.

Zimbabwe skipper Alastair Campbell played on England's fears on Monday, reminding them of their record against his men and adding: "We will have the psychological edge ... we are not scared of them."

England batted badly on Saturday after playing well in the previous two games and they will realise they have to get that aspect right against us."

Zimbabwe coach David Houghton, meanwhile, has been indulging in some reverse psychology of his own, lambasting his team for lacking the killer instinct.

After accusing his side of playing like "schoolboys" in their warm-up campaign,

Houghton branded them "chokers" when losing to Sri Lanka, adding: "Our boys don't like to admit that - but I will admit it for them."

Tuesday's game is vital for both sides' ambitions of vaulting out of group A and into the second round.

See page 14



ALASTAIR CAMPBELL

Seize the moment,  
AKTEL it.



### HEAD-TO-HEAD

Zimbabwe have won five of their six one-day internationals against England, although the two teams have not met in Test or one-day cricket over the past year.

#### WORLD CUP RESULTS TO DATE

England: Beat Sri Lanka by eight wickets, beat Kenya by nine wickets, lost to South Africa by 122 runs.

Zimbabwe: Beat Kenya by five wickets, beat India by 3 runs, lost to Sri Lanka by four wickets.

#### WORLD CUP

Zimbabwe beat England by nine runs in their only World Cup clash at Albury, Australia in 1992. Zimbabwe, shot out for 134, hit back to dismiss England for 125, with seamer Eddo Brandes taking four for 21.

#### PLAYERS TO WATCH

England: Alan Mullally. The tall Leicestershire left-arm pace bowler has been a major World Cup success with six wickets and a best of four for 37 against Sri Lanka. Against South Africa, came on as first change to bowl Jacques Kallis with a superb inswinger and also removed the in-form Darryl Cullinan.

Zimbabwe: Flower, Grant or Andy. The brothers have propped up Zimbabwe's batting here. Grant has scores of 20, 45 and 42, and Andy of 34, 68 not out and 41. Andy has the additional duty of wicket-keeping, while Grant chips in with useful spin.

#### VENUE

Trent Bridge. The home of county side Nottinghamshire, it has been a regular Test venue for 100 years. West Indian all-rounder Garfield Sobers, rated the greatest cricketer ever, played for Notts, as did Richard Hadlee of New Zealand, Test cricket's second highest wicket-taker with 431.

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