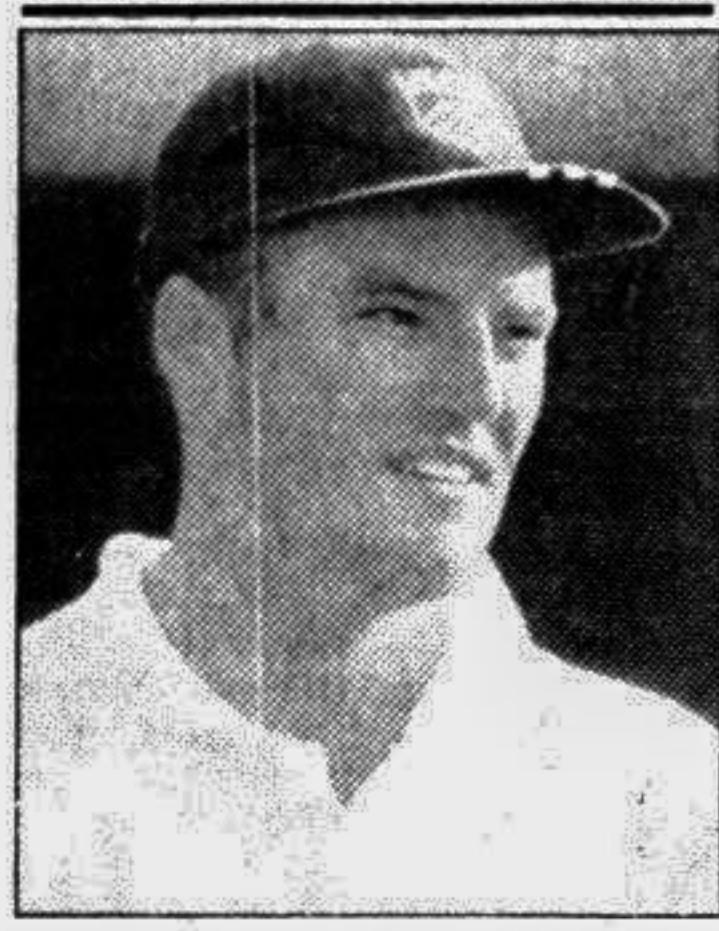


Star Sport

DHAKA THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1999 Email: dssports@bdonline.com

Column One

SPORTS TALK



Stuart MacGill

Australian leg-spinner

"I think I'm progressing really, really well and I'm aiming very strongly to play in the Australian series against India."

After being overlooked for the series opener against Pakistan.

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Competition-122

✓ Tick the Correct Answers

Post to The Daily Star

Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm

Nov 5, '99 and draw shortly afterwards

1 Which country won the SAF football gold?

Bangladesh | India | Nepal

2 Who is the captain of Brazil?

Cafu | Rivaldo | Ronaldinho

3 How many teams will play in next year's Asia Cup cricket?

4 | 5 | 6

4 Who won the men's 100 m in the Summer Athletics?

Mahbub | Yasin | Ratan

5 Who lifted the Grand Slam Cup title?

Russeki | Agassi | Kafelnikov

Name

Class

Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (If any)

POWERED WITH
EN-VITS
ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS

AKC-East Bengal draw in Tripura

Sports Reporter

Abahani Krira Chakra of Dhaka and East Bengal Club of Calcutta ended their exhibition football match in a goal-less draw at Agartala, Tripura, yesterday, according to a message received here last night.

Abahani are scheduled to return home today and take on Arambagh Krira Sangha in the concluding match of the Keya Premier Division League at the Sher-e-Bangla Stadium in Mirpur tomorrow.

A win or a draw tomorrow will ensure Abahani the runners-up spot after Mohammad Sporting, who clinched the title last Sunday.

What's eating Hooper?

SYDNEY, Nov 3: Former West Indies Test all-rounder Carl Hooper says he has itchy feet and is considering an international comeback, reports AFP.

"I've been retired now for six months and I'm slowly finding out I've still got itchy feet," he told the Sydney Daily Telegraph Wednesday.

"I think I'm still capable of playing international cricket but I'll just see how it goes."

He said he would reserve judgement on the possibility of a comeback until the end of the domestic Australian cricket season.

Hooper lives in Adelaide after marrying an Australian and plays for Carlton in the Victorian Cricket Association's Premier League.

The 32-year-old remained in Adelaide when his son was ill during the West Indies home four-Test series against Australia in March-April this year.

He played the final two Tests against Australia before announcing his retirement from international cricket at the end of the series.

Hooper played 75 Tests for the West Indies, scoring 3,916 runs at an average of about 33. He also took 85 Test wickets with his off-spin.

Hosts walking on tight rope

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh need to score another 21 runs to avoid follow on as the hosts practically threw away their wickets, raising hopes for an unlikely victory of England A at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Despite a brilliant half-century from Al-Shahriar, Bangladesh were reeling at 186 for nine in reply to the tourists' big first innings total of 356 when bad light came as a relief for the struggling last pair of Hasibul Hossain and Bikash Ranjan.

Hasibul, who helplessly watched his five-wicket burst going down the drain due to an inexplicable batting by the top order, was battling on 3 with number eleven batsman Bikash (2) when the stumps were drawn 15 minutes ahead of the scheduled closure on the third day of the four-day.

But with the prospect of another shiny day and as England wrecker-in-chief James Kirtley bowling with venom, Bangladesh are likely to face a tough task of surviving a full day on a deteriorating wicket today.

The young leg-spinner, batting on 12 at stumps on the second day, reached his first fifty on the tour with the help of seven fours before being bowled by left-arm seamer Bikash.

After Schofield departed, Hasibul mopped up the England tail, claiming the last two wickets in successive deliveries. The experienced right-arm seamer returned as the most successful Bangladesh bowler with five for 85 in his 30.3 overs.

The match resumes at 9am today.

The rot started when Javed, who scored 11 in an opening stand of 26 runs with Shahriar, was clean bowled by Kirtley in the ninth over.

In-form Bashar, who hammered a brilliant 143 not out in the three-day match at Chittagong, scored only two runs when the right-hander edged an attempted drive of Paul Franks to Solanki in the second slip.

Bangladesh got a major blow when Aminul, being carried away by the sudden rush of blood, chased a Kirtley delivery wide outside the off-stump and ended up offering a low catch behind the wicket. The Bangladesh captain was then on only six.

Bangladesh suffered another blow when Shahriar Hossain quite unnecessarily tried to hit leg-spinner Schofield over the top of mid-off fielder and eventually scooped it to Kirtley. The right-handed opener departed for 20, reducing Bangladesh to 54 for 4.

Al-Shahriar however lifted Bangladesh out of the quagmire with a potentially match-saving 73. Coming in to bat at number five the right-hand stroke-maker, mixing caution with aggression, held the innings together before becoming the eighth batsman out in the 67 over.

He put on 70 runs for the fifth wicket with wicketkeeper Khaled Masood before the latter departed for 30, the second

highest score in the Bangladesh innings. Masood played some exciting shots in his 70-vigil at the crease including an eye-popping on-driven four.

Al-Shahriar reached his 50 off 78 balls with the help of half a dozen fours. But he failed to get any support from the other end once Masood departed.

The gawking stroke-maker, who holds the record of scoring the maiden first-class ton for Bangladesh, deprived himself of what would have been another well-deserved century when played he attempted lofted drive against Kirtley into the safe hands of Franks at mid-on. Al-Shahriar, who was dropped twice after reaching his half-century, hammered eight fours in his 150-ball stay at the crease.

Earlier, resuming the day on 279 for six, England reached the 350-mark, thanks to an enterprising 54 from Schofield. It was the fourth half-century in the visitor's innings.

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BFF names 24 for Asian Cup

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Football Federation yesterday called up 24 booters to the selection trials for the Asian Cup qualifiers, scheduled to kick off in Dubai, UAE, from November 28.

Pencilled in Group 3 along with Uzbekistan, India, Sri Lanka and UAE, Bangladesh will play their first match against the hosts on November 20.

National captain Jewel Rana, who retired recently, and veteran goalkeeper Mohammad Ponir were the only players missing in the team that won the 8th SAF Games gold in Nepal last month.