

**SPORTS TALK**



**Nouria Merach-Benida**  
 (Algerian athlete)  
 "This was a victory for Arab Women. Europeans have sponsorship and facilities but we have courage and heart."  
 After winning the 1500 metres gold at the Sydney Olympics.

## TASTY TEST TREATS

Hasan Masood

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina inaugurated the historic Test match between Bangladesh and India at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday morning. State Minister for Youth and Sports Obaidul Quader and Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) president Saber Hossain Chowdhury received the Prime Minister and introduced her to players of both sides.

She released an emblem of the Bangladesh Cricket Board into the air along with captains Naimur Rahman and Saurav Ganguly. Later paratroopers of Bangladesh Army, carrying flags of the ten Test playing nations and the Board, dropped into the big bowl after the PM left the ground for the President's box.

Sheikh Hasina signed a first-day cover commemorating the inaugural Test match.

As usual her presence created a nightmare for the paying spectators seated nearby.

**CONFUSING TOSS**  
 Sometimes history can be confusing!  
 Indian captain Saurav Ganguly thinking he won the historic toss said, "Yes, it's tall" without properly seeing on which side did the commemorative coin fall.

However, Bangladesh captain Naimur Rahman, who threw the coin, saw that it was head and then informed match referee Raman Subba Row about the matter.

The former England captain saw the coin personally and declared the Bangladesh captain winner of the toss.

**BEWARE AMINUL**  
 If Bangladesh middle-order batsman Aminul Islam is warned a second time for running on the crease then India could start their first innings with a five-run bonus.

The former Bangladesh captain was officially warned by West Indies umpire Steve Bucknor in the 82nd over yesterday for repeatedly running on the crease. He was also cautioned by England umpire David Shepherd a few overs earlier for committing same offence.

According to the new International Cricket Council rule, if he receives another official warning five runs will be automatically added to the fielding team's account.

**UMPIRE'S INTERVAL**  
 As any umpire knows standing in a five-day Test match for up to thirty hours is a pretty tough job.

So sometimes it's good to give the poor feet a break whenever possible.

West Indian Steve Bucknor did exactly that by sitting in the driver's seat of the Coca-Cola drinks trolley during each interval in the day's play.

**CHAPPELL'S MISTAKE**  
 According to veteran television commentator Ian Chappell knows Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina as the president of Bangladesh.

The former Australian captain and WorTel commentator erroneously referred to her as Bangladesh's head of government twice during the inaugural ceremony of the historic Test match yesterday morning.

Many viewers, watching the telecast, thought the gentleman ought to have facts straight on the matter before commenting.



STARS OF THE DAY: A combo picture shows Aminul Islam (L) executing a square-drive while Habibul Bashar sweeps Murali Kartik on way to their half centuries on the first day of the Inaugural Test at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.



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**Sports WHIZZ KID**

**Competition 138**  
 Tick the Correct Answers  
 Post to Star Daily Star  
 Win attractive prizes  
 Competition closes at 8 pm  
 Nov 17 2000 and draw shortly afterwards

- Who clinched the Asia Cup soccer title?  
 South Arabia Japan South Korea
  - How many teams took part in the Sharjah cricket series?  
 4 3 5
  - Who lifted the ICC Knockout Trophy?  
 South Africa New Zealand Australia
  - Which club annexed the Parvati title?  
 Dhaka Club Officers Club Gulshan Club
  - Who clinched Krenalin Cup tennis title?  
 Safin Agassi Kafelnikov
- Name: .....  
 Class: ..... Roll No: .....  
 School Address: .....  
 Phone: (if any): .....

**Opsonin nat'l tennis Alamgir, Baishakhi emerge champs**

From Our Correspondent  
 PATUAKHALI, Nov 10: Alamgir of Dhaka became champion beating Collins of Rajshahi 7-6, 6-3, 6-4 in the men's singles final of the Opsonin national tennis tournament at the local tennis court yesterday.

On the other hand, Baishakhi of Dhaka clinched double crown.

She defeated Ruma of BKSP 6-0, 6-3 in the women's singles final and in the doubles final partnering with Avie outplayed BKSP duo Misty and Ruma 6-0, 6-1.

In the boys' singles final, Sami of BKSP lifted the title-beating Murad 4-6, 6-3, 6-4.

Collins and Sakib of Rajshahi defeated Dhakas Amol Roy and Babu Lal pair in the men's doubles final 6-2, 6-4.

**Ctg soccer league starts today**

From Our Correspondent  
 CHITTAGONG, Nov 10: The Ispahani Mahanagari Pioneer Football League begins at the Dampara Police Lines ground here tomorrow under the auspices of Chattogram Mahanagari Krira Sangstha (CMKS).

Twenty-one teams, split into six groups for the first round, are to take part in the league.

Top two teams from each group will move into the robin league second round which will be held in four groups.

Only winners in the second round will qualify for the semi-finals.

ABM Mohinddin Chowdhury, Mayor of Chittagong, is expected to inaugurate the league as chief guest.

**First day firsts**

Sports Reporter  
 Habibul Bashar became the first Bangladeshi batsman to have scored a fifty in Test cricket. The top order batsman entered into the history books after scoring a magnificent 71 against India on the first day of the inaugural Test match yesterday.

Habibul could have become the first Bangladeshi centurion had he not tried to pull Zaheer Khan and mistimed resulting an easy catch to Ganguly at mid-on.

Nevertheless, former national captain Aminul Islam still has a bright chance to write his name in the annals as first Bangladeshi Test centurion.

- The experienced middle-order batsman, who led Bangladesh in the 1999 World Cup, was batting on 70 at the close of play.
- Following is a list of firsts for Bangladesh in Test cricket:
- First batsman to strike:** Shahriar Hossain
  - First to score a run:** Mehraz Hossain
  - First to hit a four:** Shahriar Hossain
  - First to hit a six:** Akram Khan
  - First to get trapped leg before:** Al-Shahriar
  - First to be caught behind:** Mehraz Hossain
  - First to get out under ten:** Mehraz Hossain
  - First ball bowled by:** Javagal Srinath
  - First maiden over by:** Javagal Srinath
  - First wicket captured by:** Zaheer Khan

**Inter-varsity cricket**

From JU Correspondent  
 Rajshahi University (RU) handed Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU) a 153-run defeat in the inter-varsity cricket tournament at the JU central playground yesterday.

Rajshahi decided to bat first after winning the toss and scored 226 runs for three in the stipulated 40 overs. Rana made highest 88. Mushfiq Babu scored unbeaten 69 while Liton contributed 40.

Parvez and Bidhan bagged one wicket each.

In reply, BAU managed only 73 runs losing all the wickets in 34.5 overs.

Paceman Nazrul took six wickets giving only six runs.

Nazrul of RU was declared man-of-the-match.

Chittagong University will take on Khulna University today.

**Barisal soccer**

From Staff Correspondent  
 BARISAL, Nov 10: T&T Ekadosh emerged champions in the Abdur Rab Serniabat First Division football league beating Confidence Club in the tie-breaker 4-2 in the final at the Shaheed Abdur Rab Serniabat Stadium today.

Sahen, Titu, Litu and Manir scored one goal each for the winners while Lablu and Alope netted one goal each for the losers.

Deputy Commissioner, Barisal, distributed prizes among the winners as chief guest.

Twenty-three teams participated in the league.

**IMPERIAL PAINTS**  
 WORLD CLASS PAINT

**BANGLADESH-INDIA SCOREBOARD**  
 Scoreboard at stumps on the first day of the Dutch Bangla Bank inaugural Test match between Bangladesh and India at the Bangabandhu National Stadium on Friday:

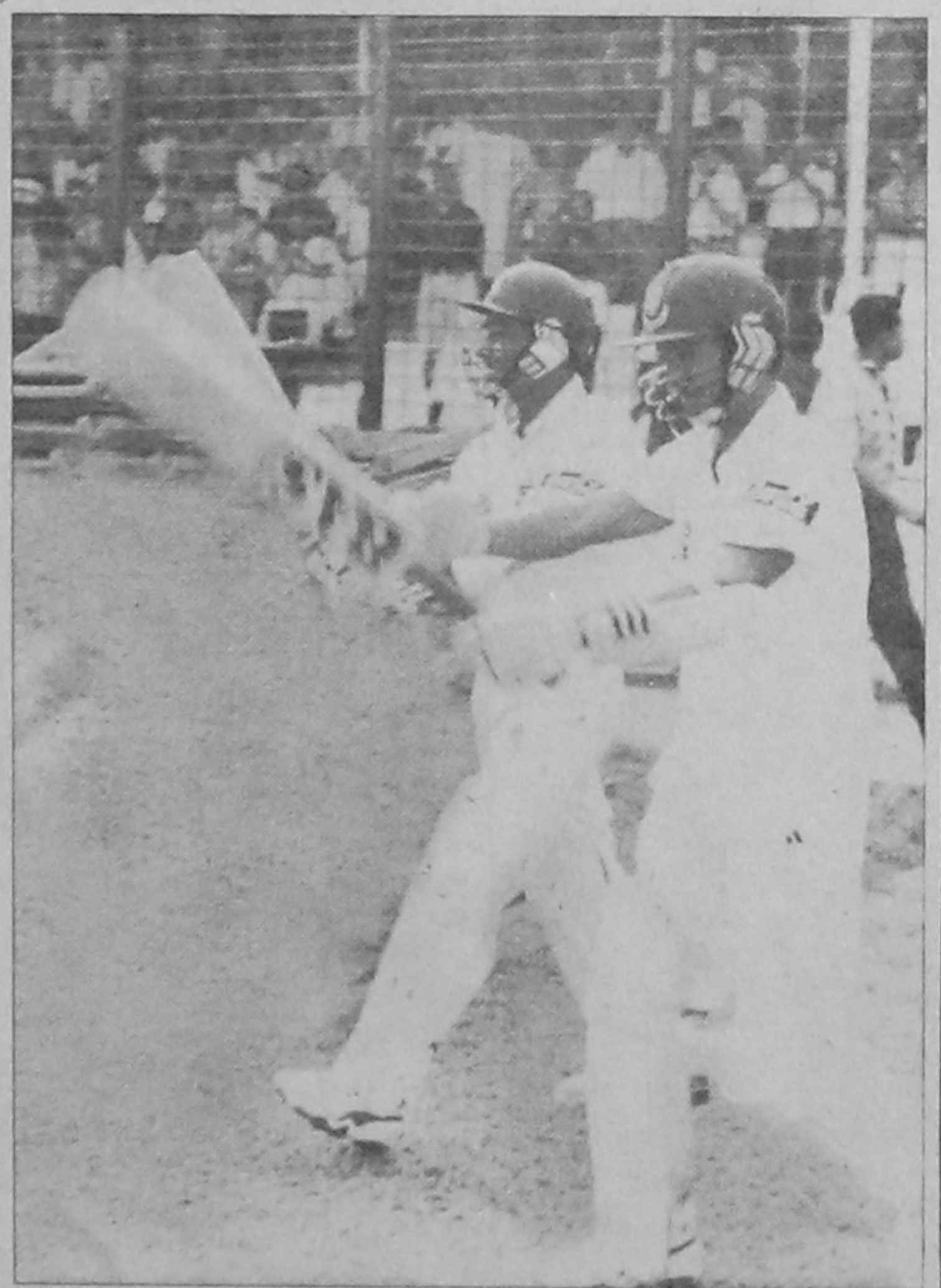
BANGLADESH: First innings		R	B	Min	4s	6s
Shahriar c Ganguly b Joshi	12	50	83	1	-	-
Mehrab c Karim b Zaheer	4	18	25	-	-	-
Bashar c Ganguly b Zaheer	71	112	158	10	-	-
Aminul batting	70	213	298	8	-	-
Akram c Dravid b Joshi	35	65	88	5	1	-
Al-Shahriar lbw b Agarkar	12	35	40	1	-	-
Naimur c Das b Joshi	15	44	53	2	-	-
K Masood batting	3	5	10	-	-	-
Extras: (b-12, lb-3, nb-2)	17					
Total: (For 6 wickets in 90 overs)	239					
Fall of wks: 1/10; 2/44; 3/110; 4/175; 5/196; 6/231						
To bat: Rafique, Hasibul and Bikash						

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Srinath	16	6	33	0
Zaheer Khan	14	4	36	2
Ajit Agarkar	17	6	46	1
Sunil Joshi	26	4	69	3
M Karthik	13	5	23	0
Tendulkar	5	2	17	0

**INDIA:** Saurav Ganguly, Sachin Tendulkar, Rahul Dravid, SS Das, Sadagopan Ramesh, Saba Karim (wicketkeeper), Sunil Joshi, Murali Karthik, Javagal Srinath, Zaheer Khan and Ajit Agarkar.

Umpires: David Shepherd (England), Steve Bucknor (West Indies).

Match Referee: Raman Subba Row (England).  
 Third Umpire: Mahabubur Rahman (Bangladesh).  
 Toss: Bangladesh.



STEPPING INTO HISTORY: Shahriar Hossain (L) and Mehraz Hossain walking on to the ground to open Bangladesh's Test cricket account at the Bangabandhu Stadium yesterday.

**Media mistreated**

Syed Ashfaqul Haque  
 Newsmen got a very unpleasant treat from the Cricket Board yesterday, the day when Bangladesh were making their historic Test debut against India.

Because of the manner in which the Board demonstrated its sheer incompetence and negligence in handling the press, a good number of journalists including two from The Daily Star could not cover the match from the spot.

Along with a few other journalists the head of The Daily Star Sport was also denied entry at the Bangabandhu National Stadium despite having produced the official accreditation card to the boy scouts and security personnel on duty at Gate 21.

"We have been instructed by Jalal Yunus (chairman media committee of the Board) not to allow any journalist to enter the press box without possessing an on duty pass along with their accreditation card," they said while obstructing the puzzled newsmen.

The day before media committee issued six accreditation cards plus four 'on duty' pass for The Daily Star. In issuing of cards and passes, the committee was also found practising favouritism. Few newspapers were supplied six on duty passes along with six accreditation cards.

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**Thanks SL**

COLOMBO, Nov 10: Twenty blind Bangladeshi cricket lovers will be donated 20 corneas by the Sri Lankan cricket board to mark their country's first official Test match, board officials said today, reports Reuters.

"The cricket board is sponsoring the gifting of 20 corneas from the Sri Lanka Eye Donation society to be given to Bangladeshis for their country's Test debut," said Anura Weerasinghe, the board official coordinating the project.

He said the board would bear the cost of transporting the corneas, estimated at 300,000 rupees (3,750 dollars).

"We asked that the eyes be given to poor cricket lovers, but that is not a precondition and anyone can benefit," said Weerasinghe.

He said the first two corneas, which were sent ahead of the match, had already been implanted and the two recipients would be brought to watch Bangladesh play India in Dhaka if their doctors permitted it.

The rest of the corneas will be sent in the next few weeks, Weerasinghe said.

Bangladesh began their first ever test match today, hosting India in a one-off Test.

**Rajshahi kabadi**

From Our Correspondent  
 RAJSHAHI, Nov 10: Shiroil Sporting Club defeated Modern Boxing Club 35-26 in the Rajshahi First Division kabadi league at the local gymnasium premises today.

The second match between Sporting Star Club and Jagota Sangha was abandoned following a dispute between the contestants.

## Learn from mistakes

Lenin Gani



If Habibul and Akram learn any lessons from their appearance in a Test they surely will not play those reckless shots after doing all the hard work. In fact, probably when they look back on this memorable day in years to come, they'll probably argue that inexperience was their undoing.

The former, a stylish middle-order batsman, got a rush of blood while trying to pull Indian paceman Zaheer Khan, but only succeeded to hit him straight down Saurav Ganguly's throat. The Indian skipper gratefully snapped him up at mid-wicket. Up till that moment

Bashar was in sublime touch from the moment he entered the ground. His aggressive approach produced 71 runs from 112 balls. It featured ten glorious boundaries. Unfortunately, his partner at the time Aminul Islam didn't tell him to be prepared for a long haul.

One of the most basic rules after a drink break is for the batsman to wait a couple of balls before resuming the innings. No matter whether he has reached a fifty or is on the verge of a hundred, it is essential not to rush.

What a pity 28-year-old Bashar whose omission from the team created a national outcry, couldn't have answered his critics in the most emphatic

manner with debut a hundred in front of his home crowd.

Akram was going great guns after a nervous beginning. The stocky Chittagonian middle-order batsman had gone to tea with a straight six off Joshi. But just as Bashar got carried away, the former Bangladesh captain attempting to hit the left-arm slow bowler out of the attack chose a risky lofted shot that ballooned into the air and was grabbed by Rahul Dravid for a 68-ball 35.

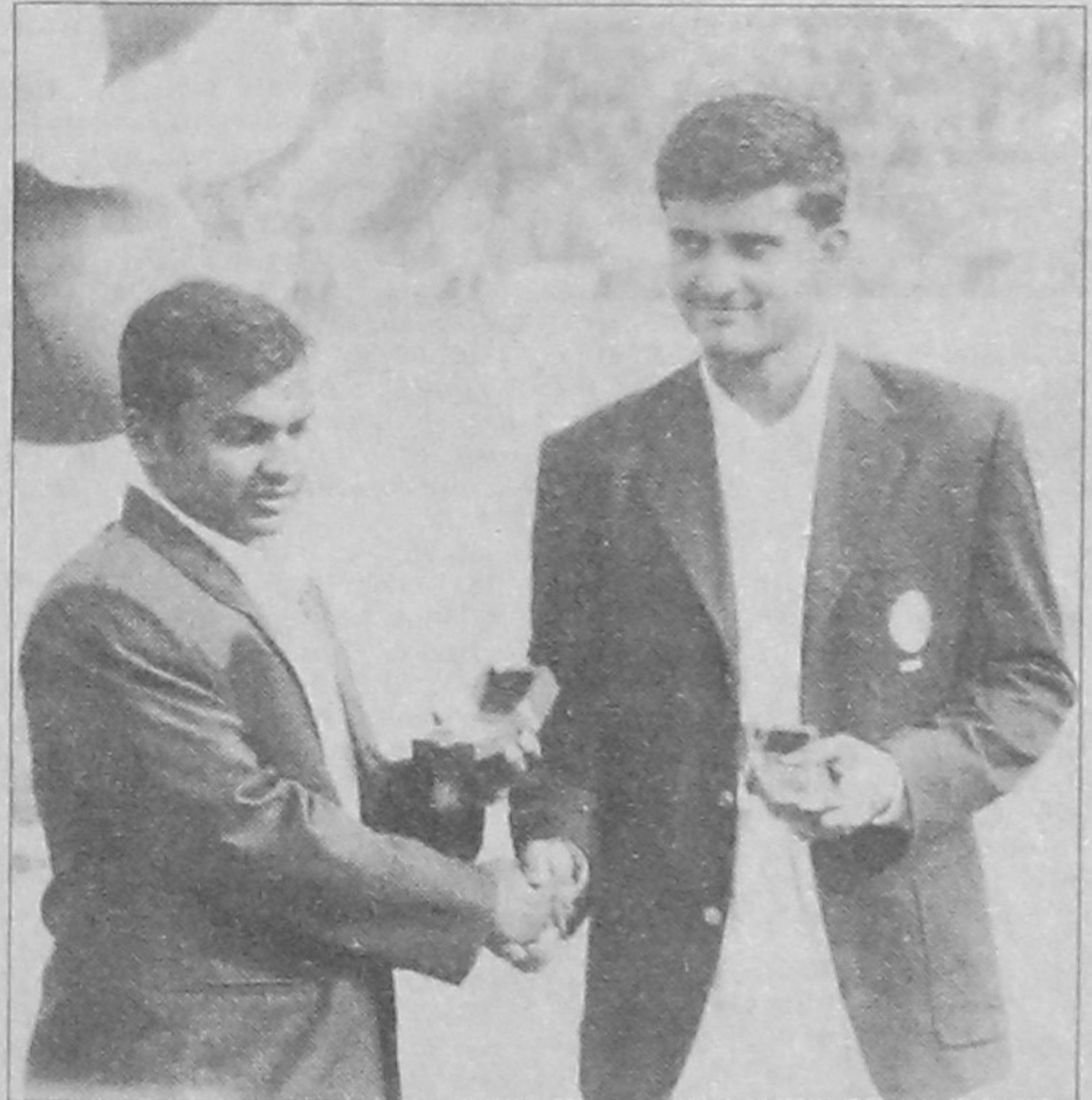
Another guilty of offering his wicket was opener Mehraz Hossain who had no business fishing outside his off-stump to a Zaheer delivery.

Contrastingly, Aminul who earlier played second fiddle to marauding Bashar in their 56-run stand for the third wicket demonstrated his powers of concentration. The veteran batsman had been going through a lean spell for quite a long time, but after more than five hours at the crease had reached his maiden Test half-century. And while others failed to come to terms with a pretty ordinary Indian attack, Aminul hung around to see the home side through to 239-6 at stumps. But more important his Herculean unbeaten 70 ensured that Bangladesh would bat into a second day. A prospect no die-hard supporter would have dared to imagine at the start of play.

Even the WorldTel experts (Greig, Chappell, Holding and Shastri) were amazed after the Bangladesh captain Naimur Rahman won the somewhat confusing historic toss and took the bold decision of batting first on pitch described by Holding as having a bit of moisture.

Incidentally, Bangladesh became only the fourth team to win an inaugural toss.

The design of the commemorative 24-carat coin created an embarrassing situation for first-time skipper Ganguly who



Two captains, Naimur Rahman and Saurav Ganguly, shake hands after the toss. Both were presented with a replica of the coin.



THEY WANT ONLY BOUNDARIES: A few female spectators enjoying the first day's proceedings at the Bangabandhu Stadium

**Coca-Cola**  
 Sponsor of Bangladesh National Cricket Team  
 Refreshing Bangladesh Cricket Passion