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In fond remembrance

# Star SPORT

DHAKA TUESDAY FEBRUARY 27, 2001 E-MAIL: dssports@gononet.com

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## Did U Know?

Sir Donald Bradman became the first living Australian to be commemorated on a postage stamp issued for Australian Day. A portrait and an action shot of the batting legend from his heyday in the 1930s were launched in 1997. He is also the first cricketer to be the subject of a recorded song. 'Our Don Bradman' was released in 1930.



## Talk Turkey



## Sir Don Bradman

"Despite recent sad developments, cricket will survive and remain our most noble game and I shall always remain proud of the part I played in its history and development."

While wishing the game in the face of match-fixing in August 2000.



## What to Watch

- DD Sports**  
Australia vs India  
First Cricket Test  
Live at 9:30 am
- ESPN**  
NSW vs Tasmania  
Sheffield Shield Cricket  
9:00 am
- UEFA Champions League  
8:00 am
- Serie A Highlights  
2:0 pm
- English Premiership  
4:30 pm
- Star Sports**  
Harsha Online  
Cricket Talk Show  
8:30 am and 1:00 pm
- NSW vs Tasmania  
Sheffield Shield Cricket  
2:00 pm
- New Zealand vs Pakistan  
4th one-day international  
6:00 pm (1hr highlights)  
Primera Liga  
8:30 pm

## Sports WHIZZ KID

**Competition 145**  
✓ Tick the Correct Answers  
Post to *Star Daily Star*  
Win attractive prizes  
Competition closes at 8 pm  
March 2, 2001 and draw shortly afterwards

- Bangladesh beat Mongolia in the 2002 World Cup qualifier  
2-0 3-2 3-0
- Who clinched the Paris Indoor Open title?  
Huber Hingis Mauresmo
- Sri Lanka won the one-day series against New Zealand  
3-2 5-0 4-1
- How many Tests will Bangladesh play in five years?  
34 35 36
- Who lifted the national under-19 cricket crown?  
Chirtagong Rajshahi BKSIP

Name .....

Class ..... Roll No. ....

School Address .....

Phone: (If any) .....

## Quotes by and about Bradman

REUTERS, Sydney

A collection of quotes by and about cricketer Sir Donald Bradman:

"I saw much better batsmen than I was. Lots of them... they just kept getting out." — Bradman.

# Brightly fades The Don

## Cricket

REUTERS, Sydney

The passing of Sir Donald Bradman marked not only the death of a cricketer legend but a spiritual moment in the history of Australia.

The bush telegraph burned bright today as news of the death of "The Don" spread across this sunburnt land.

From rural Cootamundra, Bradman's birthplace, to the dusty outback Birdsville Track and the gleaming high-rises of Sydney, Australians gathered at petrol pumps and around corner stores.

All asked the same thing: "Did ya hear? Bradman's dead?"

Within minutes of the news that Bradman had died in his sleep aged 92 on Sunday, Australia was in mourning.

"For many Australians the passing of Sir Donald Bradman will be like a death in the family. He was an icon, an exemplar, a hero," Labor opposition leader Kim Beazley said.

Flags flew at half mast in Cootamundra. Rush hour traffic slowed in some towns. The boss of Australia's biggest grocer Woolworths began a company briefing with a tribute to Bradman.

"People are in a daze. The streets are quiet. I am sad and driving around in a daze," said

George, 30, a talkback radio caller from one small town.

But it was a national sadness not just for the passing of a man, but for what he represented. For millions "The Don" was the quintessential Australian.

He was a man who rose from humble beginnings in a small country town to be the world's greatest test cricketer.

"Poetry and murder lived in him together. He would slice the bowling to rhythms and dance without pity on the corpse," wrote one poet of Bradman's cricketer feats.

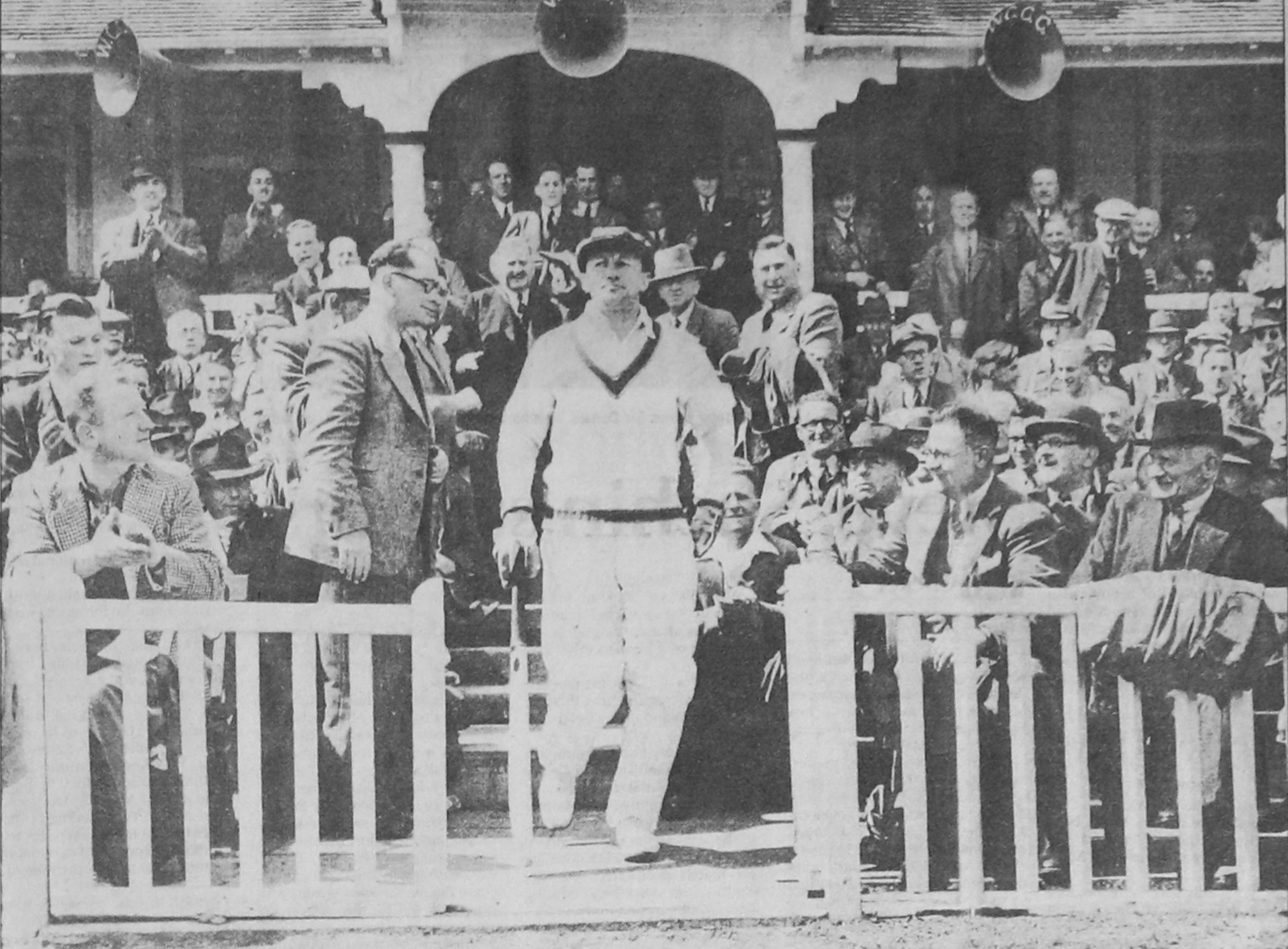
But despite his fame Bradman remained an egalitarian man, forever helping charities and young sportsmen and women.

"He was the most famous Australian ever, a national talisman, the taciturn symbol of an unpretentious country," said Mike Rann, Labor opposition leader in Bradman's home state South Australia.

But many Australians saw his death as marking the end of an era when Australia was a fairer place to live.

"He was imbued with the spirit of fair play. A lot of that is passing. Australia is changing. We should look back on people like Sir Don and grab hold of what they gave us," said John, another talkback radio caller.

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No one will walk as tall.

# The world pays homage

## Cricket

REUTERS, Sydney

Former Test umpire Harold 'Dickie' Bird has described the loss of close friend and hero Sir Donald Bradman as a "tragic blow".

"It's very, very sad, but I did know that he has not been very well," Bird told Sky Sports.

"It's a tragic blow for cricket. He is the best batsman in the history of the game. I have never seen a batsman to touch him in all the times I've stood in Test matches."

"He was a genius. He was beautifully balanced on his feet. He was a great timer of the ball. He saw the ball early and had a tremendous eye."

"You have to say that he skippered the Australian side in 1948 and that was possibly the best Test side which has ever played the game."

Bird added: "He treasured his knighthood more than anything. He never really talked about it, but deep down I think that was the highlight of his career."

England Test bowler Fred Trueman described Bradman's death as "the passing of a legend."

"He was simply the best and I am very sad. I would love to have

had the great honour of bowling against him that would have been marvellous. He was a wonderful man and it's a passing of a legend."

When asked if he thought anyone could ever surpass Bradman's status in the world game, Trueman said: "I would not have thought so, never again or before."

Former England skipper Mike Gatting also joined in the compliments.

"I hope he will be remembered for the great player he was. Wisden recognised him as one of the five greatest players in history and his average proves that beyond doubt."

"No-one score so freely again. He seemed to be ahead of his time by such a long way."

Another former England captain Brian Close paid tribute to Bradman's humility.

"He was never overpowering with his deeds, he was meek in some ways and did not thrust it down people's throat. Today's players could learn a lot from him."

New Zealand's former Test captain Richard Hadlee has described Bradman's philosophies on batting as still valid today.

"The Don was without peer in his time and even today," said

Hadlee. "He demonstrated wonderful skills and very simple batting. I read his coaching book many years ago and his approach to batting is still applicable today."

"He was legendary, an icon of the game and the greatest cricketer ever."

Hadlee's father Walter, a former New Zealand Test captain, said one of his most poignant memories of the master batsman was seeing him in action for South Australia against the tourists in Adelaide of years ago.

"The Don played in that game and he was 11 not out at the end of the first day after we batted."

"As 12th man I was free to look around the next morning to see the crowd pour in to watch Bradman bat."

"Jack Cowie got him out straight away for 11 - caught behind by Eric Tindall. I was outside the gate when the word went around the queues 'he's out, he's out.' I would say two-thirds of them went home."

England captain Nasser Hussain broke off from the tense final day of the opening Test against Sri Lanka and led the tributes to Australian batting legend.

Hussain and players from both sides lined-up with black armbands and observed a two-minute silence before the start of play having heard the news this morning, although overnight batsman Michael Atherton and Graham Thorpe complied from inside the dressing room.

The Sri Lankan Cricket Board also flew the flags above the Galle International Stadium at half-mast in memory of the world's greatest ever batsman.

"It's a sad day because he was a great player in any era," said Hussain. "It's a sad day, especially for all Australians and our thoughts go out to their team and Australians in general."

"There is one thing that is indisputable - he was a great player in his era and generally when that happens, they would probably be great players in any era."

"It would have been nice to have seen him out there playing against Muttiah Muralitharan to see how he would have done it - he'd have probably just nudged it behind square leg for one and got up the other end like most great players."

"It is almost the end of an era - the last great player of that era has gone and we will acknowledge him today and get on with trying to make this a better game."

Hussain added: "We're all cricketers from all around the world and we know what the Australian team will be feeling this morning."

"They are just about to go into a Test match and I think it is just right to put the arm-bands on, have a two-minute silence and

then get on. We obviously have an important game here, but you have to do the right thing and then move on."

Sri Lankan coach Dav Whatmore, who spent most of his formative years growing up in Australia, gave an insight into just how highly he is regarded in his home country.

"As teacher he was the best," said Whatmore.

"He served the country in so many ways - as a player, a selector and an ambassador and a great man, he's regarded as the Australian by most people."

Former England coach and SkySports commentator David Lloyd, recalled the day he was taken to see Bradman as a player during the 1974-5 Ashes tour.

"I had taken the bat which I scored a double hundred with against India on the tour and Alec Bedser took me to see him and he signed it for me - it is very special to me," said Lloyd.

"I had a spell watching the old cine films of him and I've read lots of books about him and he was a very technical player - I don't think anyone will ever match his record."

Former England all-rounder and SkySports pundit Ian Botham hailed Bradman as one of the "greatest sporting heroes" the world has ever seen.

"He is a great sporting legend, he is a national hero to Australians. He is the greatest sporting hero in Australian history and he's right up there in world history," claimed Botham.

"His record is the greatest of all time and I have no doubt that in whatever era he played he would have been one of the greatest if not the greatest - it's an amazing record and will never be equalled."

"He also studied the modern game. On my very first tour to Australia I sat down with him one afternoon at the Adelaide Oval and he wasn't one of those people who went on about cricket in his day, he was a thoroughly pleasant man."

Former England captain and batting maestro David Gower said: "Nobody will ever emulate the feats of The Don again. He would have been supreme in any era and had he played in the modern game, would no doubt have topped the lists of all batting achievements."

Sir Donald Bradman's status as the world's greatest cricketer has never been queried, South Africa's top-scoring batsman Graeme Pollock said on Monday.

"Bradman was unique," Pollock, whose Test average was second only to the Australian's, said.

"He was the greatest batsman that's ever played. People become sceptical whenever a sportsman is

## CAREER STATISTICS

AFP, Sydney

The cricketing career statistics of Donald George Bradman, who died in Adelaide on Sunday at the age of 92.

**First class career:**  
Debut: New South Wales v South Australia, Adelaide, 1927-28  
Highest score: 452 not out, New South Wales v Queensland, Sydney, 1929-30

M	I	N/O	Runs	H/S	0s	50s	100s	Avg
234	338	43	28,067	452no	16	69	117	95.14

**Test career:**  
Debut: Australia v England, Brisbane, 1928-29  
Highest score: 334, Australia v England, Leeds, 1930

M	I	N/O	Runs	H/S	0s	50s	100s	Avg
52	80	10	6,996	334	7	13	29	99.94

**Dismissals**

Inns	NO	Bwd	Cght	LBW	RO	HW
80	10	23	39	6	1	1

**Captaincy**

Country	Capt	W	L	D	%
England	19	11	3	5	57.89
India	5	4	0	1	80.00
Total	24	15	3	6	62.50

**Career summary:**  
28,067 runs  
Average of 95.14  
117 centuries  
37 double hundreds  
6 triple centuries

**In Tests:**  
6,996 runs, in 80 innings, in 52 Tests  
Average of 99.94  
29 centuries, including 19 in Ashes

## TEST CRICKET'S LEADING AVERAGES

AFP, Sydney

Test cricket's leading batsmen's averages (under Tests, innings, not outs, runs, highest score, average, 100s, 50s. Asterisk indicates not out)

Don Bradman (Aus)	52	80	10	6996	334	99.94	29	13
G Pollock (Rsa)	23	41	4	2256	274	60.97	7	11
G Headley (WI)	22	40	4	2190	270*	60.83	10	5
IJ Sutcliffe (Eng)	54	84	9	4555	194	60.73	16	23
E Paynter (Eng)	20	31	5	1540	243	59.23	4	7
K Barrington (Eng)	82	131	15	6806	256	58.67	20	35
E Weekes (WIs)	48	81	5	4455	207	58.61	15	19
W Hammond (Eng)	85	140	16	7249	336*	58.45	22	24
G Sobers (WIs)	93	160	21	8032	365*	57.78	26	30
S Tendulkar (Ind)	79	125	13	6416	217	57.28	24	24

Australian flag at half-mast at the Sydney Cricket Ground yesterday.

## Naimur, BCB shocked

AGENCIES, Dhaka

Bangladesh's first Test skipper Naimur Rahman Monday mourned the death of Sir Donald Bradman, saying he bitterly regretted never having met the legend.

"I am deeply grieved... a living legend has passed away," he told AFP, after hearing the news of Bradman's death. "But, I regret that I did not have the opportunity to meet the legend," he said.

Rahman conveyed his condolences to the bereaved family on behalf of himself and the Bangladesh national team.

The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) has also condoned the death of the legendary Australian.

President of BCB Saber Hossain Chowdhury, MP said, "the legacy of Sir Donald, the greatest ever player world cricket has known and is likely to know, will be ever enduring and ever inspiring to players and administrators alike."

"Sir Donald personified cricket in all its blazing and wonderful glory and will forever symbolize integrity, leadership, courage and character. He has indeed been Australia's most precious gift to the world and at this very sad hour, BCB and the people of Bangladesh join citizens of Australia and the world cricket fraternity in mourning and paying the highest tribute to one of the greatest sportsman ever."

The scoreboard at the Adelaide Oval displays a farewell message after the announcement of Sir Don Bradman's death.

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PHOTO AFP