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# Star SPORT

DHAKA TUESDAY MARCH 6, 2001, E-MAIL: dssports@gononet.com

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## Did U Know?

Williams sisters -- Venus and Serena -- went head-to-head in the 1999 Lipton Championships finals, the first time since 1884 that sisters met in a major final. Venus, then 18, beat Serena, who is one year younger than her. On September 11, 1999, Serena won the first of the Williams Slams at the US Open final. She also became the first black woman since Althea Gibson to win a Grand Slam title. The next day she teamed up with her big sister to win the US Open doubles title. And with that double triumph, they heralded the beginning of a new era in women's tennis.



## Talk Turkey



**Viswanathan Anand**  
(Indian champion chess player)  
"This victory was missing in my chess life."  
After winning the FIDE World Chess Championship.



## What to Watch

- March 6**  
**ESPN**  
Serie A Highlights  
2:00 pm  
Aston Villa vs Sunderland  
English Premiership  
Repeat at 9:00 pm
- Star Sports**  
Harsha Online  
Cricket Talk Show  
8:30 am and 1:00 pm  
Deportivo vs Mallorca  
Primera Liga  
8:30 pm
- March 7**  
**ESPN**  
Football Focus  
Live at 1:00 am  
Arsenal vs Spartak Moscow  
UEFA Champs League  
Live at 1:30 am  
Bayern Munich vs Lyon  
UEFA Champs League  
4:00 am and 9:00 pm
- Star Sports**  
Boys & Sunny Masterclass  
Cricket Talk Show  
8:30 pm  
Deportivo vs Mallorca  
8:30 am

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## Sports Whizz Kid

**Competition 145**  
Tick the Correct Answers  
Post to Star Daily Star  
Win attractive prizes  
Competition closes at 8 pm  
March 9, 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?  
Chaitragong Rajshahi BKSP

Name .....

Class .....

School Address .....

Phone: (If any) .....



Australian High Commissioner Robert Flynn writing down his words for Sir Donald Bradman in the condolence book at the High Commission in the city on Monday.

## Calls to keep it open Weak turnout to sign book on The Don

**Cricket**  
SPORTS REPORTER

The Australian High Commission on Monday opened a condolence book at its Gulshan office for cricket lovers who desire to pay their respect for Sir Donald Bradman.

But the response was unexpectedly low. There were hardly any cricketers, let alone a fan of the legendary Australian batsman, found in the High Commission.

The Daily Star photographer Anisur Rahman, who went to the diplomatic area anticipating a

rush, was bewildered after not seeing a single person to take a snap.

When he reached there at around 12 noon he discovered that only seven persons have signed the book. The notable signatory among those was BCB joint secretary Mahmud Ul Haq. The book was opened from 9am to 3 pm.

Although the poor turnout has certainly put the Australian High Commission in a puzzled state, many feel that it was not an ideal time for the book to be opened with the Eid vacation looming.

"I was actually in a mad rush to go home. I was so worried about getting a transport that I simply forgot about the condolence book", said Bangladesh captain Naimur Rahman.

While taking to the Daily Star over telephone from Manikganj, Naimur requested the Australian High Commission to re-open the condolence book for another day after the Eid vacation.

Meanwhile a number of cricket bulls have called the Daily Star office to put forward their suggestion that the condolence book be opened at the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) office considering the convenience of the general public.

## PM's Cup Hockey Most teams due Thursday

**SPORTS REPORTER**

Egypt will arrive here as the first of the eight foreign teams on Thursday morning to take part in the Prime Minister's Gold Cup Hockey Tournament scheduled to begin at the Moulana Bhasani National Stadium from March 10.

Pencilled in Group B for the first round along with Pakistan, Malaysia, Ireland and China, Egypt will play their first match against Malaysia on March 11 at 4 pm.

Hosts Bangladesh, who have been slated in Group A with India, Japan and Scotland, will play in the inaugural match against Japan at 3:30 pm on March 10.

Pakistan, China, Scotland, Ireland, Malaysia will also arrive on Thursday while India and Japan are due the day after.

Meanwhile, Bangladesh national team is enjoying a five-day Eid-ul-Azha holiday. They will return to their hotel on March 8 night.

## Cricket camp resumes on March 11

**SPORTS REPORTER**

Bangladesh national cricket team will begin its final preparations for the upcoming tour of Zimbabwe at the Bangladesh Krira Shikha Proisthan (BKSP) from March 11, coach Imran Sarwar revealed it Monday.

Twenty cricketers were called up in the primary camp which began early last month. The cricketers mostly had gym works and swimming exercises other than nets during the last four weeks under the supervision of coach Imran. They were given a five-day Eid holidays on Sunday.

The cricketer will gather again at the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) on March 10 afternoon and go down to the BKSP on the same evening.

Talking to the Daily Star Sport on Monday, Sarwar said that he has already drawn up the training plan for the cricketers which will be held in BKSP.

"We have little more than two-week time which we want to utilise fully before we leave for Zimbabwe," Imran said.

He, however, added that things might change once newly appointed national coach Trevor Chappell arrives from Australia in the middle of March.

BCB is yet to confirm when the former Australian cricketers would join his new job.



Groundsmen removing dirt from the surface of the astro-turf of the Moulana Bhasani National Hockey Stadium yesterday. The nine-nation Prime Minister's Gold Cup Hockey Tournament begins at the stadium on March 10.

## Saurav on his mettle

**Cricket**  
AFP, New Delhi

India's beleaguered cricket captain Saurav Ganguly is looking to regain his batting form when he leads the Board president's team in a three-day match against the touring Australians here from Tuesday.

Ganguly was targeted by the Indian media both for his lacklustre captaincy and poor batting during India's 10-wicket defeat in the first Test against Steve Waugh's men at Bombay last week.

Ganguly, who made just eight in the two innings, himself asked to play in Tuesday's warm-up game to gain useful match practice ahead of the second Test starting at the Eden Gardens in Calcutta next Sunday.

The national selectors, who will pick the squad for the second Test on Wednesday, are keen to see how the elegant left-hander fares against the Australian attack.

Ganguly has already been named captain for the entire series, but his form with the bat could determine the composition

of the Indian team for the crucial Test.

A victory for Steve Waugh's men at the Eden Gardens will hand Australia their first series on Indian soil since Bill Lawry's team won in 1969-70.

If Ganguly runs up good form, the selectors may decide to play

"What can the bowlers do if the batsmen don't put up enough runs on the board?"

During India's tour of Australia last season, Ganguly managed just 177 runs at an average of 29.50 from three Test matches.

The Calcutta-based Ganguly missed Monday's morning flight to Delhi, forcing him to skip the board team's training session at the Ferozeshah Kotla ground.

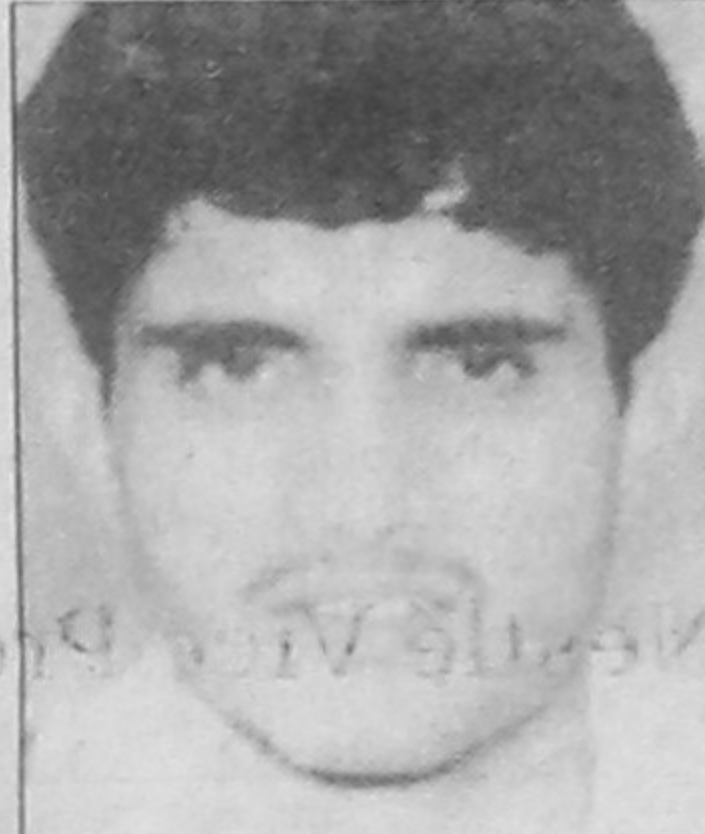
The home team also includes leg-spinner Narendra Hirwani, who was not played in the first Test despite being recalled to the national squad after five years.

The Australians took a day off on Monday to visit the Taj Mahal, the famous tourist attraction in nearby Agra.

They will go into the match without first Test hero Adam Gilchrist, who is recovering from a hip injury.

Gilchrist's place behind the stumps will be taken by New South Wales wicket-keeper Brad Haddin, who flies in later on Monday from Sydney.

Both teams will name their playing elevens before the toss on Tuesday.



SAURAV GANGULY

## Moin & Co mauled

**Cricket**  
AFP, Christchurch

New Zealand A took just 25 minutes to inflict an embarrassing innings and 54 run defeat on Pakistan on the final day of their three-day cricket tour match here Monday.

New Zealand A bowlers Chris Drum and Andrew Penn took five wickets for 16 runs between them as Pakistan plummeted from 108 for four overnight to be all out for 124 in the space of 27 balls.

Compounding Pakistan's woes was the absence of experienced opener Saeed Anwar, who didn't bat after injuring his groin while fielding Sunday.

Drum ended with eight wickets for the match after second-innings figures of four for 42, while Penn took three wickets Monday to end with four for 44 and seven for the match.

Pakistan trailed by 70 runs Monday, and it took until just the third over for New Zealand A to make further inroads.

Penn took wickets in successive balls when he bowled Younis Khan for four then had Mushtaq Ahmed caught by Lou Vincent at third slip.

Stand-in captain Waqar Younis survived the hat-trick ball but in the next over Drum got in on the act, removing Saqlain Mushtaq and Arshad Khan in the space of four balls.

Saqlain had a wild swing and was bowled and Arshad suffered the same fate when he tried to turn the ball to leg.

"Pakistan's misery was sealed in the next over when tailender Mohammad Sami edged Penn to Glen Sulzberger at first slip.

"It's true we did not have our senior players playing this three-day match," said Pakistan coach



Pakistan's Mohammad Sami (L) and Waqar Younis leaving the ground after their side were beaten by New Zealand A on Monday.

## SAARC B'ball Bangladesh vs India final

**SPORTS REPORTER**

Bangladesh paved their way into the final of the first SAARC Basketball Championship with a 71-61 win over Maldives in the second semifinal at the Guwahati Indoor Stadium in Assam yesterday, according to a message last night.

Bangladesh led the first half 33-21.

Rashed caged highest 28 points followed by Mizan and Delwar who added nine and 8 points respectively.

Bangladesh will take on hosts India in today's final at the same venue.

Satellite channel DD-1 will telecast the match live from 5 pm IST.

## Sirajganj cricket

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sirajganj**

Avijatrik Club of Hossainpur clinched the Ashraf Electronics Cricket Tournament title with an exciting four-run win over Agradut Club in the final at the Sirajganj University College ground on Monday.

Avijatrik Club made 113 all out in 25 overs after electing to bat. In their turn, Agradut were shot out for 109 in 25 overs.

Abu M Golan Kibria, chairman of Sirajganj Municipality, witnessed the final as chief guest and handed over the trophies.

**Satkhira cricket**  
**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira**

Aryans Club lifted the First Division Cricket League title with a facile nine-wicket win over Rasulpur Krira Sangstha in the final at the Satkhira Stadium on Monday.

Chasing Rasulpur's 113 in 35 overs, the winners overhauled the target in the 22nd over making 118 for the loss of only one wicket. Akhtarul scored highest 63.

Abdul Matin Chowdhury, Deputy Commissioner of Satkhira, witnessed the final and distributed prizes.



College students and their parents demonstrating in front of the house of former Sri Lanka cricket star Arjuna Ranatunga in Colombo on Monday.

## Angry students stage demonstration Cops to quiz Ranatunga

**Cricket**  
AFP, Colombo

Thousands of Sri Lankan students took to the streets here Monday denouncing the island's cricketer legend Arjuna Ranatunga for allegedly beating up students who sent a cricket ball to his compound.

As tension gripped colleges in the area, the police announced they were planning to question Ranatunga on his return from Kenya where he had travelled after the incident on Friday.

Ranatunga, the former captain of the national cricket team and the man who led Sri Lanka to victory in the 1996 World Cup, left for Kenya for a pre-arranged charity match to help victims of India's Gujarat earthquake.

The education ministry stepped in to defuse the tension by ordering the indefinite closure of the Asoka College. Four of the students from the college are still

in hospital following injuries suffered in Friday's incident.

Slogan-shouting students from the Asoka College took to the streets with fellow students from two neighbouring colleges joining in to express their solidarity with the victims.

Ranatunga's father who is a minister in the Sri Lankan cabinet told a local radio station Monday that he wanted an impartial inquiry and alleged that the students had trespassed and abused those in his household.

Police said they wanted to talk to Arjuna Ranatunga as well as two of his brothers about Friday's clash, which was reportedly provoked by the students hitting a cricket ball into the grounds of the family home.

Four of the students remained in hospital on Monday after being beaten up by Ranatunga, his brothers and the security guards at the family residence, according to Lalith Amarasekara, a teacher at the Asoka College.

"A total of seven were injured and three were discharged on Saturday," he said.

The state-run Sunday Observer newspaper reported that local police had to intervene to free students held by Ranatunga's guards.

**Rajshahi cricket**  
**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi**

Apollo Club emerged Second Division Cricket League champions with a 41-run win over Jubo Cricket School in the last match of the league at the local stadium on Monday.

Batting first, Apollo scored 148 for four in the stipulated 25 overs with Sumon hammering highest 62.

In reply, Jubo Cricket were shot out for 107 in 21 overs with Mamun junior and Mamun senior taking two wickets each.

Sumon was later adjudged as the man-of-the-match.

## Pakistan injury-struck Wasim, Anwar and Azhar to fly home

**Tennis**  
REUTERS, Karachi

Pakistan's leading strike bowler Wasim Akram, opener Saeed Anwar and young all-rounder Azhar Mahmood are going home before the first Test against New Zealand because of injury.

"Wasim, Saeed and Azhar Mahmood have been ruled out of further participation. They will be back (home) before the first Test," Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) chairman Tauqir Zia said.

The first of three Tests against New Zealand begins in Auckland on Thursday.

Zia said the board had also decided to bring home off-spinner Arshad Khan, who flew to New Zealand only last week, after the key spinner Saqlain Mushtaq hit good form in the team's last match.

There is no need for Arshad now after Saqlain Mushtaq passed his fitness test and indicated with his performance that he was back to his old magical form," Zia said referring to spinner's four-wicket haul against New Zealand A on Monday.

Arshad bowled just seven overs in the match, which Pakistan lost by an innings and 54 runs.

Zia said Akram, who has 409 Test wickets, had a side strain, as did Mahmood. Anwar, a scorer of 3,890 runs, had suffered a groin injury.

"We have been informed by the team management that the specialists there have confirmed that they can't take the field for at least four to six weeks," Zia said.

The Pakistan cricket selectors named 33-year-old batsman Ijaz Ahmad, middle-order batsman Faisal Iqbal, left-handed opener Taufeeq Umar and paceman Fazle-Akbar as replacements. They were scheduled to leave for Auckland on Monday night.

"Ijaz has been recalled because of his experience. In the absence of Anwar and an injured Inzamam-ul-Haq, the team requires someone who has tasted the rigours of Test cricket," Zia said.

Inzamam, Pakistan vice-captain, remains a doubtful starter for the first Test after sustaining a groin injury during the fourth one-day international which New Zealand won.

Ijaz, who has scored 3,282 runs in 58 Tests, was dumped after the Singapore tri-nation series in July last year and was not considered for October's ICC knock-out tournament and the home series

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