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Did U Know?

Like a stylist, former India cricket captain Gundappa Vishwanath had the ability to both delight and frustrate his fans all within a matter of minutes. Standing only 5' 4" tall, Vishy ruled over any bowling attack with his impeccable timing and amazing wristwork. Scorer of over 6,000 Test runs in 91 matches, he is the only Indian player to make a century and duck on his debut. The right-handed batsman also owns the unique record that in all the matches in which he scored a hundred (14 hundreds), India won the match!



What to Watch

- BTV**
Prime Minister Gold Cup
China v Ireland
Live at 2pm
Bangladesh v Scotland
Live at 4pm
- DD Sports**
Australia vs India
Second Test, Day Two
Live at 9:30 am
- ESPN**
New Zealand vs Pakistan
First Test, Day Five
Live at 3:30 am
Repeat at 6:30 pm
Valencia vs Sturm Graz
UEFA Champions League
11:00 am
UEFA Champions League
Weekly Highlights
2:00 pm
Serie A highlights
5:30 pm
Leeds United vs Real Madrid
UEFA Champions League
12:00 am (Tuesday)
- Star Sports**
South Africa vs West Indies
First Test, Day Three highlights
6:30 am and 6:00 pm
South Africa vs West Indies
First Test, Day Four
Live at 8:00 pm
Primera Liga
8:30 am
Asian Football Show
2:00 pm



Talk Turkey



Monica Seles
(American tennis star)
"She got better and I got worse. I didn't feel the ball at all out there. I couldn't tell if it was going in or out. I've got a lot to work on in my game."

Sports Whizz Kid

Competition 145

✓ Tick the Correct Answers
Post to *Star Daily Star*
Win attractive prizes
Competition closes at 8 pm
March 16, 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?
Chittagong Rajshahi BKSP

Name:
Class: Roll No.:
School Address:
Phone: (If any)



India's man-of-the-match Baljeet Singh Dillion is pursued by a Scottish player in their Prime Minister Gold Cup Hockey Tournament encounter at the Maulana Bhasani Stadium yesterday.

Day belongs to Egypt Super powers cruise

Hockey

SPORTS REPORTER

Firm favourites India and Pakistan got off to predictable starts in the Prime Minister Gold Cup Hockey Tournament but Egypt surprised everyone on the second day of nine-nation meet at the Maulana Bhashani Stadium by pulling off a stunning victory against Malaysia.

Egypt, the lone African representative, turned the form book upside down when they handed Malaysia a 4-2 defeat in the second Group B match.

Belal Ibrahim, the big skillful play-maker from the land of Pharaohs, fashioned the surprisingly facile victory with two goals and setting up another.

PAKISTAN 3 CHINA 1

Favourites Pakistan had to struggle against the Chinese in the Group B opener which they marginally led 1-0 in the first half.

Abbas, the stout defender, put Pakistan ahead with a brilliant push after being nicely led by Waseem Ahmed in Pakistan's first penalty corner in the 12th minute.

But China gave their mighty counterparts a good run for their money and created more chances before the breather. They earned as many as eight penalty corners against Pakistan's four.

Muhammad Nadeem doubled the margin for Pakistan seven minutes into the second half. The tall forward placed the ball home from a Saqlain pass.

China staged a brilliant rally after conceding the second goal and pulled one back from a counter attack in the 55th minute, thanks to forward Yang Wang who swayed past two defenders before scoring with a power-packed hit from the top of the box.

Inspired by the goal, the Chinese put Pakistan under tremendous pressure for an equaliser. But all their enterprise came to nothing when man-of-the-match Abbas converted yet another penalty corner at the stroke of the final whistle.



SOHIL ABBAS ... M-O-M

POINTS TABLE

Group	Teams	M	W	D	L	GF	GA	Points
Group A	Pakistan	1	1	0	0	3	1	3
	Egypt	1	1	0	0	4	2	3
	China	1	0	0	1	1	3	0
	Malaysia	1	0	0	1	2	4	0
	Ireland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Group B	India	1	1	0	0	5	1
Bangladesh	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	1
Japan	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	1
Scotland	1	0	0	1	1	5	0	0

Fingers pointed at turf

Hockey

SPORTS REPORTER

The synthetic turf at the Maulana Bhasani Stadium is no longer in a state to hold any international tournament.

And it was observed by none but legendary hockey player Shahab Ahmed Sunday. The former Pakistan captain, who guided his team to World Cup victory in 1994, blamed the poor condition of the pitch for his boys' dismal performance against China. Shahbaz came here as one of the three coaches of Pakistan national team.

When contacted, Bangladesh Hockey Federation general secretary Shamsul Bari admitted that the pitch was indeed not in good shape.

"We have a problem with the basement of the turf. It can no longer contain water for more than ten minutes," said Bari.

"We think there might be some leakage in the basement through which water is trickling down to the soil underneath. The water should pass through the drainage system. But, we've checked that water is not coming down to the drain anymore, and instead it gets vanished somewhere," said Bari.

He however informed that they had already contacted with the Modern Builders Limited, the local agent of German company Polytan which laid the pitch in 1997 at a cost of Taka 3.5 crore.

"The National Sports Council has a six-year warranty from Polytan and out of which only four years have passed. We have instructed the local agent to communicate with Polytan as soon as possible and ask them to send an expert to examine the pitch.

"After that we will be able to know about how much repairing this pitch needs to do," Bari said.

He, however, pointed at the paucity of time for not cleaning up the pitch properly although his federation was preparing for the tournament for the last six months.



SHAHBAZ AHMED

Abahani off to England

SPORTS REPORTER

A 30-member Abahani football team embarked on a maiden week-long tour of England on Sunday. The popular Dhanmondi outfit will play a couple of exhibition matches during their visit.

The second club side to tour Britain after Mohammedan Sporting Club's visit last year, Abahani will play their first match against Sporting Bengal United on March 14. Their second match against the under-19 selection of English Premiership side West Ham United will be played at Upton Park on March 19.

The tour has been arranged by Canary Warf in an effort to entertain the strong Bangladesh expatriate community in the United Kingdom.

SQUAD
Iqbal Hossain (captain), Biplab Bhattacharya, Matur Rahman Munna, Abdul Qayum Sentu, Partho Profim Kundu, Rakib Mahubul Apel, Arman, Tito, Sujon, Rokonzaman Kanchan, Nazrul Islam, Pavel, Tanveer Chowdhury, Allaz Ahmed and Zakir Hossain Shahin and Dulal Saha.

Officials: Ashrafuddin Chonnu (Chief-of-mission), Bazul Haque Beg (deputy leader), Dewan Shafiqul Arefin (deputy leader), Shah Alam Chowdhury (coordinator), Momem Munna (manager) and Amal Sen (coach).

U-13 cricket team BCB calls up 74 players

SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) on Sunday picked 74 cricketers as part of its plan to build a National under-13 team.

The players have been selected from across the country on the basis of their performance during the recent Under-13 competition involving 12 teams of six divisions.

The selected players have been asked to report to Sri Lanka coach Senarath Alwis and his assistant Wahidul Ghani at the Dhanmondi Club ground on March 16 at 10 am.

The players are: Sajjad Hossain, Mahabul Hassan, Ali Imdad, Mokammel Hossain, Hadidur Rahman, Mahmudul Hasan, Shakawat Hossain (Dhaka Rangers), Ohtulul Islam, Sobagh, Rafiqul Hossain, Rashedur Zaman, Shakawat Hossain, Didar Hossain, Farhad, Monty (Dhaka Colts), Nabid Shalimar, Mofizur Rahman, Debasish Sarker, Ishrat Somrot (Barisal), Musa Ahmed, Sayeduzzaman, Rubaiyat Reza, Tanvir Hossain, Al Amin, Rubel Talukder, Sohul, Rubel, Shaon Parvez, Mahmudul Hassan (Rajshahi Tista), Chayan Raj, Ifteker Hossain, Ifteker Naveem, Marshal Ayub, Sajid Khan, Ashraf Uddin, Sirajul Islam, Rezaul Islam, Qudus, Hamid Rafi (Dhaka Metro Blues), Alif, Shahed Mahmud, Rabiul Islam, Tushar, Emdadul Islam (Khulna Tiger), Riaz Mahmud, Mainul Haider, Ali Haider, Ashraf Hossain, Abdul Monir, Hossain Arif (Chittagong Titas), Shakawat Hossain, Abu Azad, Samrat, Mohammad Abu Azad, Mokter Hossain, Rizvi, Azizul Huq, Ashrafur Zaman (Rajshahi Padma), Nazimuddin, Reefat Anwar, Akid Rahman, Sakib Al Mahmud, Mohsin Hossain, Asif Mahmud, Rakib Ahmed, Shabnur Hasan, Abdullah Sunny, Badrul Islam (Dhaka Green), Tanvir Hasan (Khulna), Sharif Mostakin, Azharuddin, Tamin Iqbal (Chittagong Karnaphuli), Fahmidul Huq, Mohibul Rahman (Sylhet).

Nat'l chess qualifiers March 14

UNB, Dhaka

The qualifying round of the Professor Abdur Razzak 27th National Chess Championship will begin on Wednesday at the Chess Federation.

Top nine players of the qualifying round will be entitled to play in the final round.

A total of 12 players will play in the eleven-round Swiss-league

England clinch equaliser

Cricket

AFP, Cuddyp

England squared the three-match series against Sri Lanka when they won the second Test by three wickets, shortly after lunch on the fifth and final day here Sunday.

Chasing a victory target of 161, England lost three wickets in the morning session to go to lunch at 152 for seven. But the eighth wicket pair of Craig White and Ashley Giles held their nerve against some testing bowling by the Sri Lankan spinners to knock off the remaining runs.

White made the winning hit -- a cover drive off Sanath Jayasuriya -- and ran a single to signal the victory for England. White was unbeaten on 21 and Giles on four.

Sri Lanka made 297 and 250

Hattrick hero Harbhajan

Cricket

AFP, Calcutta

Off-spinner Harbhajan Singh grabbed India's first hat-trick in Test cricket to trigger a dramatic Australian collapse on the opening day of the second Test here on Sunday.

The 20-year-old removed Ricky Ponting, Adam Gilchrist and Shane Warne off successive balls in his 16th over as Australia crumbled from 193-1 at tea to 291-8 by stumps.

Backed by some 65,000 screaming home fans at the Eden Gardens, Harbhajan sliced through the middle-order in the

post-tea session to end the day with career-best figures of five for 66.

Australian captain Steve Waugh battled through the turmoil to remain unbeaten on a typically pugnacious 29 after two hours at the crease.

Australia, who elected to take first strike on a flat run-laden wicket, appeared headed for a big score when just one wicket fell in the first two sessions.

Left-handed opener Matthew Hayden made 97, sharing a first-wicket stand of 103 with Michael Slater (42) and 90 for the second with Justin Langer (58).

Hayden, who made 119 in the first Test at Bombay, fell three

short of his second consecutive Test hundred against the Indians when he miscued Harbhajan to mid-wicket in the second over after tea.

Harbhajan, playing his 10th Test, claimed Mark Waugh to a smart catch by wicket-keeper Nayan Mongia, before taking the hat-trick with the second, third and fourth balls of his 16th over.

He trapped Ponting and Adam Gilchrist leg-before with deliveries that thudded into the pads and then had Warne caught at forward-short leg by a diving Sadagopan Ramesh.

Indian umpire Shyam Bansal took the help of the third umpire to confirm that Ramesh had taken the catch cleanly, which reduces Australia to 252-7.

"I am still pinching myself to believe I have done it," an ecstatic Harbhajan said after play. "I did not take a hat-trick even in school, so to do it in a Test match is very, very special."

His captain Saurav Ganguly, leading India for the first time in his home city, was equally delighted.

"The bowlers worked very hard in difficult conditions to help us come back," Ganguly said. "But we have a long way to go and must remain focussed. We must dismiss Australia quickly on Monday if we are to have a chance in this match."

Harbhajan's hat-trick was the first by an Indian in Tests, although Kapil Dev and Chetan Sharma achieved the feat in one-day internationals.

The Indians, thrashed in the first Test by 10 wickets, finally had reason to smile after luck appeared to be favouring the Australians.

Slater had made 13 when he was caught at second slip off Ganguly, only to see umpire Bansal declare a no ball.

Hayden was also fortunate to get as far as he did, surviving two close calls.

He was on 20 when Sachin Tendulkar narrowly missed the stumps after the batsman was stranded way out of his ground.

Lien on 67, Rahul Dravid floored a shoulder-high catch at first slip off Zaheer Khan.

Even Langer escaped unscathed when umpire Bansal turned down



Indian off-spinner Harbhajan Singh celebrates after completing a unique hat-trick on the opening day of the second Test against Australia in Calcutta yesterday.

England clinch equaliser

Cricket

AFP, Cuddyp

England squared the three-match series against Sri Lanka when they won the second Test by three wickets, shortly after lunch on the fifth and final day here Sunday.

Chasing a victory target of 161, England lost three wickets in the morning session to go to lunch at 152 for seven. But the eighth wicket pair of Craig White and Ashley Giles held their nerve against some testing bowling by the Sri Lankan spinners to knock off the remaining runs.

White made the winning hit -- a cover drive off Sanath Jayasuriya -- and ran a single to signal the victory for England. White was unbeaten on 21 and Giles on four.

Sri Lanka made 297 and 250

and England replied with 387 and 161 for seven.

Sri Lanka won the first Test at Galle by an innings and 28 runs and both teams now go to the third and final Test beginning at the Sinhalese SC grounds on March 15 level at one-all.

Chaminda Vaas achieved the breakthrough for Sri Lanka when England resumed at their overnight total of 91 for four by having Alec Stewart lbw in the sixth over for seven.

A stand of 25 runs followed between nightwatchman Robert Croft and Graeme Hick which took England to 122. Hick was let off by wicket-keeper Kumar Sangakkara off Vaas at four when he got an inside edge on a drive.

But Hick, who was uncomfortable against spin, finally succumbed to Sanath Jayasuriya, who

bowled him for 16.

Croft's 113-minute resistance for 17 runs was ended at 142 when he was ruled out lbw attempting to sweep a straight ball from Kumar Dharmasena.

Vaas finished with figures of four for 39.

England fast bowler Darren Gough was named man-of-the-match for his match bag of eight wickets for 123 runs.

The Test was marred by several umpiring controversies.

Sri Lanka captain Sanath Jayasuriya was fined 60 per cent of his match fee and received a suspended sentence of two Tests and two one-day internationals for showing dissent over his dismissal in the second innings.

Sri Lanka umpire BC Cooray who was at the centre of controversy ruled Jayasuriya caught after he had hit the ball on the ground.

Several other bat-pad and lbw before decisions also went against both sides.



ELATED ENGLISHMEN: Craig White (L) and Ashley Giles rejoice after making sure England snatched a three-wicket win against Sri Lanka in the second Test yesterday.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at the end of the second Test between Sri Lanka and England Sunday:

SRI LANKA: First innings 297 (Vaas 101, R. Arnold 65, Gough 4-73, A. Caddick 4-55)

ENGLAND: First innings 387 (Hussain 109, G. Thorpe 59, A. Stewart 54, M. Muralitharan 4-127, Jayasuriya 3-76)

SRI LANKA: Second innings 250 (Sangakkara 95, K. Dharmasena 87, D. Gough 4-50, R. Croft 3-40)

ENGLAND: Second innings (over night 91-4) (Atherton c Sangakkara b Vaas, Trescothick lbw b Vaas 13, Hussain c Sangakkara b Vaas 15, Thorpe c Sangakkara b Muralitharan, Stewart lbw b Vaas, Croft lbw b Dharmasena, Hick b Jayasuriya, White not out, Giles not out)

Extras: (b-1, lb-8, nb-2) 11

Total: (for 7 wickets, 71.1 overs) 161

Fall of wickets: 1-24, 2-25, 3-48, 4-89, 5-97, 6-122, 7-142

Bowler	O	M	R
Vaas	18	4	39
Zoysa	2	0	16
Dharmasena	8	0	25
Muralitharan	27	7	50
Jayasuriya	16.1	5	22

Result: England won by three wickets

Man-of-the-match: Darren Gough

Third Test: March 15-19, Colombo