



Did U Know?

The blade of a cricket bat is traditionally made of willow, flat on one side, humped on the other for strength, attached to a sturdy cane handle.

It has a maximum width of 108 millimetres (4.25 inches) and the whole bat has a maximum length of 965 millimetres (38 inches).



What to WATCH

DD Sports/National
Australia vs India
3rd one-day international
Live at 10:00 am

ESPN
Harsha Online
Cricket Talk Show
12:00 pm

New Zealand vs Pakistan
Third Test highlights
7:00 pm

Western Union World Football
12:00 pm

Man United vs Liverpool
English Premiership
Live at 5:00 pm

Arsenal vs Tottenham
English Premiership
Live at 8:00 pm

Star Sports
South Africa vs West Indies
Third Test, Day Two
Highlights at 6:30 am & 7:00 pm

South Africa vs West Indies
Third Test, Day Three
Live at 8:00 pm

Boys & Sunny Masterclass
Cricket Talk Show
10:05 pm



Graham Thorpe

(England cricketer)

"Sri Lanka were more skilful than us in the one-day game. It is really in the batting that we failed and that is something that we will have to look at hard."

After England's 10-wicket defeat to Sri Lanka in the third one-day.



Mohammedan players leaving the field after their victory over Kalabagan Krira Chakra in the Premier Division Cricket League at the Bangabandhu National Stadium on Friday.

MSC made to work

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

Mohammedan Sporting Club extended their impressive all-win record in the Premier Division Cricket League with a tense ten-run win over current runners-up Kalabagan Krira Chakra at the Bangabandhu National Stadium on Friday.

Mohammedan scored 267 for nine in their stipulated 50 overs and then dismissed their opponents for 257 in the final over.

With their sixth win in a row, the Motijheel outfit still jointly occupied the top spot on 12 points with arch-rivals Abahani. On the other hand, Kalabagan suffered their second defeat in as many matches.

Put into bat, Mohammedan rode on a 88-run opening stand between Rashedul Haque and Harunur Rashid that came off just 14.4 overs.

Rashedul took the Kalabagan bowlers to the sword hitting a 63-ball 65. He helped himself to three sixes and nine boundaries.

The entertainment however came to an end in the 15th over when he edged off-spinner Ripon into the safe hands of Kalim at the short square leg.

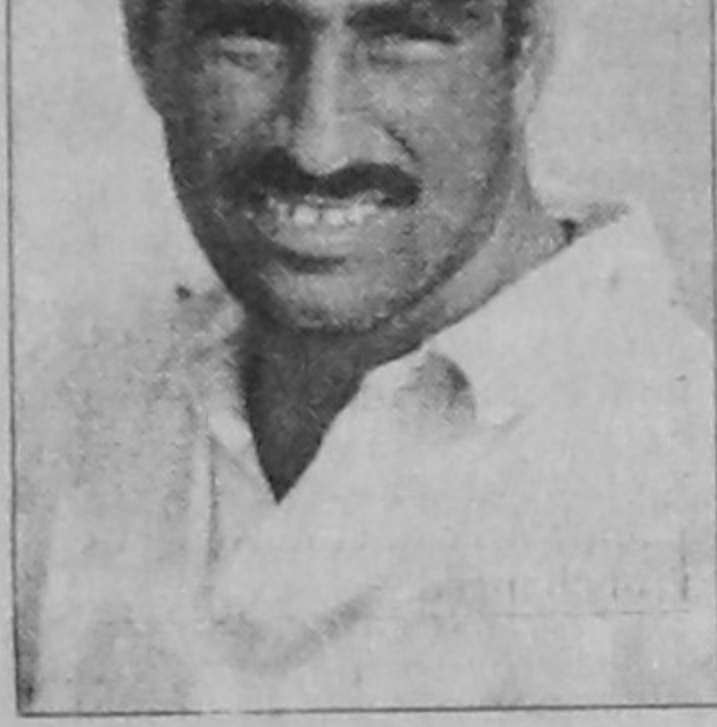
Kenyan star batsman Steve Tikolo joined Harun and helped add 84 runs for the second wicket.

But after the in-form Kenyan, who scored a run-a-ball 47, fell with the total on 172, the run rate began to slow down and eventu-

ally the innings concluded on 267 for nine.

And even though Harun scored highest 76 off 111 balls, yet his more patient stay at the crease

his side to an improbable win but medium-pace Shafiuddin Ahmed clean bowled the plucky lower-order batsman for 21.



TAREQ MEHMUD... 96

failed to increase the flow of runs.

Kalabagan's reply was mainly built around Tareq Mehmud and his younger brother Ziaur Rehman.

Tareq, the right-handed Pakistani opener, scored 96 off 100 balls with a quartet of sixes and eight boundaries while Zia chipped in with a run-a-ball 48 that included five fours.

But once the brothers were gone with Kalabagan on 213 for seven, Mohammedan had little trouble in removing the tail.

Mosaddek Hossain almost took

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Saiful	10	1	43	0
T Mehmud	5	1	21	0
Mosaddek	10	0	59	1
Ripon	10	0	52	2
Manzarul	10	0	43	2

Batter	R	B	4s	6s
Nahidul c Harun b Ashique	5	0	0	0
T Mehmud b Hayat Rafiqul run out	96	0	24	0
Subrata b Mustadir	11	0	0	0
Rehman c Minhaz b Sanwar	48	0	0	0
Kalim lbw b Hayat Rafiqul	0	0	0	0
Manzarul c Harun b Sanwar	12	0	0	0
Mosaddek b Shafiuddin	21	0	0	0
Saiful lbw b Sanwar	3	0	0	0

Hockey team go to Kolkata today

SPORTS REPORTER

An eighteen-member Bangladesh hockey team will leave for Kolkata tonight by road to take part in the Beighton Cup.

Bangladesh, who have been given a direct entry to the second round, will play their first match on April 3. Their opponents are yet to be determined as the first round is still in progress.

Although, the century old tournament is a club-level meet played on natural grass court, Bangladesh is taking part in the tourney as a build-up for the forthcoming World Cup qualifiers to be held in Scotland next July.

SQUAD
Russell Khan Bappi, Mameen Hossain, Shahidullah Khokon, Hasib, Shahidullah Tito, Ashiquezaman, Mahbubul Ehsan Rana, Ariful Haque Prince, Moududur Rahman Shuvo, Sheikh Ramijuddin, Shamsuddin Tuhin, Mohammad Javed, Shawkat Ali, Musa Miah, Isa Miah, Shamsuzzaman Khokon, Shamim Reza and Mamunur Rashid.
Coach: York Schumacher.

Biman take off

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

Majed Sayeed and Hasanuzzaman piloted Bangladesh Biman to an eight-wicket victory over Brothers Union in a Premier Division Cricket League engagement at the BKSP ground in Savar on Friday.

The undefeated pair put on 103 runs for the third wicket as Biman, chasing a moderate Brothers total of 190 in 50 overs, coasted to the target in 45 overs with eight wickets to spare.

Majed hit 89.

During his 119-ball knock, the Pakistani one-down slammed three sixes and five boundaries while Hasan made 44 off 75 balls it included two sixes and as many fours.

Make-shift opener Aamir Wasim scored 45 off 70 balls with nine boundaries.

Earlier, batting first, the Gopibagh club were restricted to 190 for nine in 50 overs. Middle-order

batsman Jahangir Alam hammered an 87-ball 60. The former national opener hit eight boundaries.

Middle-order Aslam made a breezy 53.

It was Biman's fifth win in six matches which raised their tally to ten points, two behind leaders Abahani and Mohammedan. On the other hand, it was Brothers' fourth defeat in six matches which kept them on four points.

SCOREBOARD
Scoreboard of the Premier Division Cricket League match between Biman and Brothers Union at the BKSP ground on Friday:

BROTHERS UNION

Batter	R	B	4s	6s
Ahmed c Majed b Aminul jr	6	0	0	0
Sadik c Mukter b Anis Masroor c Plaban b Aminul jr	5	0	0	0
Jahangir c Anis b Plaban	60	4	0	22
Dev lbw b K Mahmud	19	0	1	30
Mahbub c Mukter b Athar Aslam c Hasan b K Mahmud	2	0	0	37
Talukder run out	53	0	0	43
AL-Amin b K Mahmud	12	0	0	11
Imran not out	2	0	0	11
Sohel not out	9	0	0	0
Extras: (lb-3, nb-2, w-5)	10	0	0	0

BIMAN

Batter	R	B	4s	6s
Athar Ali run out	4	0	0	0
A Wasim st Jahangir b Aslam	45	0	0	0
Majed not out	89	0	0	0
Hasan not out	44	0	0	0
Extras: (b-2, w-7)	9	0	0	0
Total: (For 2 wks in 45 overs)	191	0	0	0

Fall of wickets: 1/4, 2/88.

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Aminul jr	10	2	34	2
Anis	10	3	33	1
K Mahmud	8	0	37	3
Athar Ali	7	0	25	1
A Wasim	10	0	36	0
Ziaur	2	0	11	0
Plaban	3	0	11	1

NZ going to Sharjah

Cricket

AFP, Hamilton

New Zealand Cricket (NZC) Friday accepted an invitation for the national team to compete in the triangular one-day tournament in Sharjah from April 8-20.

The NZC board decided at its monthly meeting to join Pakistan and Sri Lanka at the tournament after India withdrew earlier this week.

New Zealand will play Sri Lanka on April 10 and 13, and Pakistan on April 12 and 15. The final is on April 20.

NZC chief executive Chris Doig said the board viewed the tournament as a chance to develop some of the younger players who have played for New Zealand this summer.

The team are unlikely to include several senior players due to the length of their season, including captain Stephen Fleming, who is to take up a contract with English county Middlesex.

Sri Lanka name Sharjah squad

INTERNET, Colombo

Sri Lanka have made one change from the one-day squad that faced England in their touring party to the Sharjah tournament that begins April 8th.

Fast-bowler Dilara Fernando comes in for reserve wicketkeeper Lanka de Silva in the only change from the side that comprehensively defeated England 3-0.

The team is due to depart from Sri Lanka on April 4th to take part in the three-nation tournament with Pakistan and the newly-conquered New Zealand.

Kiwis flatten Pakistan

Cricket

AFP, Hamilton

New Zealand secured a record-breaking victory as they humiliated Pakistan in the third and final Test here Friday to square the series 1-1.

Craig McMillan set up the triumph for the Kiwis as he smashed

1 day test in Wellington.

New Zealand ended a trying, injury-plagued season with a record of three wins, three losses and three draws from nine tests, five of them in Africa.

For captain Stephen Fleming there was no understating his joy at his 13th win as captain in his 60th Test.

"That's as close to the perfect Test as you can play," Fleming said.

Franklin took career-best test figures of four for 26 while Tuffey took three for 38 and Martin two for 48.

Tuffey's seven-wicket match haul on his home ground won him the man-of-the-match award. He ended the series with 16 wickets at an average of 23.

The match only lasted 189 overs, or the equivalent of two days, after stoppages for rain and bad light.

Friday started badly for New Zealand when Mark Richardson lasted just three balls before falling for his overnight score of 106, his maiden Test century.

But McMillan and Fleming took over, putting on 147 runs in two hours, including an amazing assault from McMillan.

After bringing up his 13th Test 50 off 80 balls, he scored his next 48 runs off 17 balls, including eight fours and two sixes.

Fleming reached 50 two balls before McMillan reached his milestone but then stood idle to finish the innings 51 not out off 69 balls.

Younis Khan's only over went 4, 4, 4, 4, 6, 4 — three of them from reverse sweeps and the six from a lofted off drive out of the ground.

McMillan moved ahead of five players, including top-all-rounders Kapil Dev and Ian Botham, who had taken 24 off an over at test

Agrani run over Bima

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

Agrani Bank registered their second straight Premier Division Cricket League win when they defeated Sadharan Bima Krira Sangstha by 78 runs at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium on Friday.

Put into bat, the bankers, who beat Young Cricketers by five wickets at BKSP on Thursday, piled up 275 for seven in the stipulated 50 overs with good contributions by the top-order.

Opener Jamal Faisal scored highest 48 followed by one-down Selim Shahed who added 41.

In reply, Sadharan Bima were bundled out for 197 after right-arm medium pace man Nayaran Shaha snapped up four wickets.

Batter	R	B	4s	6s
Saiful c Ziauddin b Narayan	26	0	0	0
Kamal not out	25	0	0	0
Tariqul run out	0	0	0	0
Tariqul b Russell	10	0	0	0
Zakir c Ziauddin b Morshed	16	0	0	0
Extras: (lb-6, w-16)	22	0	0	0
Total (ALL out in 45.4 overs)	197	0	0	0

Batter	R	B	4s	6s
Rezwana lbw b Narayan	1	0	0	0
Fahim c Sajjad b Narayan	4	0	0	0
Lareq lbw S Malik	39	0	0	0

Fall of wickets: 1/11, 2/23, 3/161, 4/170, 5/215, 6/236, 7/265.

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Tariqul	6	1	26	0
Zakir	7	0	51	1
Tashriqul	10	0	47	1
Moin	10	0	35	1
Tareq	9	0	43	1
Rezwana	8	0	63	3

SCOREBOARD
Scoreboard of the Premier Division Cricket League match between Agrani Bank and Sadharan Bima at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium on Friday:

AGRANI BANK

Batter	R	B	4s	6s
Narayan c & b Tashriq	21	0	0	0
Jamal c Saiful b Moin	48	0	0	0
S Shahed c Tushar b Rezwana	41	0	0	0
S Malik c Saiful b Tareq	30	0	0	0
Sajjad c Mofizul b Rezwana	38	0	0	0
Sohail c Mofizul b Rezwana	23	0	0	0
Imran b Zakir	34	0	0	0
Monir not out	4	0	0	0
Morshed not out	8	0	0	0
Extras: (b-5, lb-5, nb-4, w-11)	25	0	0	0
Total: (For 7 wks in 50 overs)	275	0	0	0

Fall of wickets: 1/77, 2/100, 3/161, 4/170, 5/215, 6/236, 7/265.

SADHARAN BIMA

Batter	R	B	4s	6s
Mofizul lbw b S Shahed	43	0	0	0
Faisal c S Shahed b Narayan	5	0	0	0

READERS' ZONE

No foreign players

Do you have any observation regarding sports and its management in Bangladesh? Do you feel certain issues need to be addressed before time runs out? Then, hurry up and send us your burning questions, critical views and thoughtful suggestions not in excess of 400 words. Let your voice buzz at your corner, the READERS' ZONE.

--Sports Editor

We all have observed that foreign players dominate our domestic cricket and they play major role in deciding league championship. Two foreign players are allowed to play for a club in this season's Premier League. As a result, all the clubs have signed foreign players for the sake of their existence.

Foreign players dominate every match in such a way that local players hardly get any fair chance to show their mettle. A team usually gets an opportunity of playing 11 to 14 matches in a year. Foreign recruits bowl 20 overs in majority of 50-over matches, and the remaining 30 overs are shared by local players. Batting up the order, they score nearly 80 per cent of runs while local players sit idle in the dressing room. Hardly they get any scope to bat and bowl.

England is the only country where one foreign player is allowed to play for a county. Previously, the quota of foreigners for

DRU cricket final today

UNB, Dhaka

The final of the Dhaka Reporters Unity (DRU) inter-house cricket will begin at the Jagannath Hall ground of Dhaka University at 12 noon today.

Prior to the final, Dainik Banglar Bani will take on Dainik Sangbad while Dainik Sangram will face Abas in the semifinals at the same ground.

In the quarterfinal matches, Abas defeated Inqilab by two wickets, Banglar Bani beat Matribhumi by four wickets and Sangbad trounced Dainik Rupali by 67 runs yesterday.

Dainik Sangram got walkover against Dainik Khabar moving into the semifinals.

DAY'S EVENT

Premier Division Cricket League
Surjo Farun Club v Young Cricketers
(Bangabandhu National Stadium)
Victoria SC v Dhanmondi Club
(Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium)



New Zealand's Craig McMillan in action during his record-breaking innings against Pakistan in Hamilton on Friday.

Sports WHIZZ KID

Competition 146

✓ Tick the Correct Answers
Post to *The Daily Star*
Win attractive prizes
Competition closes at 8 pm
April 6, 2001 and draw shortly afterwards

- Who clinched the SAARC basketball crown?
India Sri Lanka Nepal
- Who won the Masters Series in Indian Wells?
Agassi Sampras Kafelnikov
- What position did Bangladesh capture in the Prime Minister Gold Cup hockey tournament?
Fifth Sixth Seventh
- Who became Prime Minister of Australia?
India Pakistan Malaysia
- Who won the man-of-the-series award in the Pepsi Test series between India and Australia?
Harbhajan Singh Shane Warne VVS Laxman

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