### 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).



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 Boycs & 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 de feat to Sri Lanka in the third onedayer.



#### 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

8	1	basketball crown?		
		India	Sri Lanka	Nepal
	2.	Who won the Masters Series i Indian Wells?		

Agassi Sampras Kafelnikov 3. What position did Bangladesh capture in the Prime Minister

Gold Cup hockey tournament? Fifth Sixth Seventh Who became Prime Minister Gold Cup hockey champions

Pakistan Malaysia Who won the man-of-the-serie award in the Pepsi Test series between India and Australia? Harbhajan | Shane | VSS Laxmar

Name .....

Class..... Roll No..... School Address .....

Phone: (If any) .....



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 tenrun 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 Motifheel 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.

Rashed took the Kalabagan bowlers to the sword hitting a 63ball 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-

Agrani Bank registered their sec-

and straight Premier Division

Cricket League win when they

defeated Sadharan Bima Krira

Sangstha by 78 runs at the Dhan-

mondi 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

contributions by the top-order.

Selim Shahed who added 41.

stipulated 50 overs with good

Opener Jamal Faisal scored

In reply, Sadharan Bima were

highest 48 followed by one-down

bundled out for 197 after right

arm medium paceman Nayaran

Scoreboard of the Premier Divi-

sion Cricket League match be-

tween Agrani Bank and Sadharan

Bima at the Dhanmondi Cricket

Shaha snapped up four wickets.

SCOREBOARD

Stadium on Friday:

Narayan c & b Tashriq

S Malik c Saiful b Tareq

Sajjad e Mofizul b Rezwan

Sohail c Mofizul b Rezwan

Extras: (b-5, lb-5, nb-4, w-11)

Total: (For 7 wkts in 50 overs) 275

3/161, 4/170, 5/215, 6/236, 7/265.

Fall of wickets: 1/77, 2/100,

S Shahed c Tushar b Rezwan

Jamal c Saiful b Moin

AGRANI BANK

Imran b Zakir

Monir not out

Bowler

Tariqui

Tashriqul

Zakir

Moin

Tareq

Rezwan

SADHARAN BIMA

Mofizul Ibw b S Shahed

Faisal c S Shahed b Narayan

Morshed not out

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

ally the innings concluded on 267 his side to an improbable win but

highest 76 off 111 balls, vet his more patient stay at the crease



TAREQ MEHMUD... 96

failed to increase the flow of runs. Kalabagan's reply was mainly built around Tareq Mehmud and his younger brother Ziaur

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

Agrani run over Bima

Monir c Ziauddin b Narayan

Jashim e Sajjad b Narayan

Saiful c Ziauddin b Russell

Zakir c Ziauddin b Morshed

Total (ALL out in 45.4 overs) 197

READERS' ZONE

We all have observed that for-

eign players dominate our domes-

tic cricket and they play major role

in deciding league championship.

I wo foreign players are allowed to

Premier League. As a result, all the

clubs have signed foreign players

Foreign players dominate every

match in such a way that local

players hardly get any fair chance

to show their mettle. A team usu-

11 to 14 matches in a year. Foreign

of 50-over matches, and the re-

recruits bowl 20 overs in majority

maining 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

3 where one foreign player is al-

43 ously, the quota of foreigners for -

England is the only country

lowed to play for a county. Previ players.

any scope to bat and bowl.

ally gets an opportunity of playing

play for a club in this season's

for the sake of their existence.

Fall of wickets: 1/11, 2/23, runs.

Rezwan Ibw b Narayan

Lareq b S Malik

Kamal not out

Tashriq run out

Tariqul b Russell

Extras: (lb-6, w-16)

READERS' ZONE

medium-pacer Shafiuddin Ahmed And even though Harun scored clean bowled the plucky lowerorder batsman for 21.

#### SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the Premier Division Cricket League match between Mohammedan SC and Kalabagan KC at the Bangabandhu National Stadium on Friday: MOHAMMEDAN SC

Rashedul c Kalim b Ripon Harun c & b Manzarul Tikolo c & b Ripon Sanwar run out Minhaz c Subrata b Manzarul Havat c Subrata b Mosaddek Mustadir run out Jamaluddin run out Mortuza not out Ashique c Rehman b Ashfaq Shafiuddin not out Extras: (b-5, lb-7, w-11)

Total: (For 9 wkts in 50 overs) 267 Fall of wickets: 1-88, 2-172, 3 204, 4-212, 5-221, 6-222, 7-237, 8-245, 9-253

Bowler Saiful 21 T Mehmud Mosaddek Ripon Manzarul KALABAGAN KC Nahidul c Harun b Ashique T Mehmud b Hayat Rafigul run out

Subrata b Mustadir Rehman c Minhaz b Sanwar Kalim lbw b Hayat Manzarul c Harun b Sanwar Mosaddek b Shafiuddin Saiful Ibw b Sanwar

6 3/31, 4/47, 5/110, 6/111, 7/154,

1 8/155, 9/168

Bowler

Imran

S Shahed

Morshed

Russell

Sohail

39 Narayan

25 S Malik

No foreign players

Do you have any observation regarding sports and its manage-

ment in Bangladesh? Do you feel certain issues need to be ad

dressed 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

SEE PAGE 15

-- Sports Editor

each county was a little bit higher

Everybody knows what the stan-

dard of England team was a few

years back. It has remarkably gone

up in recent times as compared to

other Test-playing countries be-

cause of their policy about foreign

Kenya, a non-Test playing coun-

try, play in our Dhaka league and

portunity to get into the middle

It is pity that even cricketers of

To improve the standard of

cricket, we must stop at once the

practice of recruiting foreign play-

ers at the expense of locals. In-

of India and domestic cricket of Sri

Lanka we would then consider

Atiqui Alam, Through E-mail

#### 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, Yameen Hossain, Shahidullah Khokon, Habul, Shahidullah Tito, Ashiquzzaman, 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.

### NZ going to Sharjah

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

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

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

Fast-bowler Dilhara 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 newlyconfirmed New Zealand.

SQUAD

Sanath Jayasuriya (captain), Mar-Atapattu (vice-captain) 0 Romesh Kaluwitharana, Kumar 0 Sangakkara, Mahela Jayawardene, 1 Russel Arnold, Tillekeratne Dilshan, Indika de Saram, Kumar 2 Dharmasena, Tilan Samaraweera, Chaminda Vaas, Nuwan Zoysa, 0 Muttiah Muralitharan, Akalanka Result: Agrani Bank won by 78 | Ganegama, Dilhara Fernando.

#### 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 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,

Ahas defeated Ingilab 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.



Premier Division Cricket League Surjo Tarun Club v Young Crickincreasing the quota of foreign

(Bangabandhu National Stadium) Victoria SC v Dhanmondi Club (Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium)

## 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.

Makeshift 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

mered an 87-ball 60. The former national opener hit eight bounda-

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** 

Ahmed c Majed b Aminul jr Sadik c Mukter b Anis Masroor c Plaban b Aminul jr Jahangir c Anis b Plaban Dev lbw b K Mahmud Mahbub c Mukter b Athar Aslam c Hasan b K Mahmud Talukder run out Al-Amin b K Mahmud Imran not out Sohel not out Extras: (lb-3, nb-2, w-5)

batsman Jahangir Alam ham- Total: (For 9 wkts in 50 overs) 190 Fall of wickets: 1/2, 2/6, 3/13,

1/66, 5/69, 6	1124, 1	1153	, 8/1	10,	
9/178.					
Bowler	0	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	
BIMAN					
Athar Ali run out					
A Wasim st Jahangir b Aslam					
Majed not out					

Hasan not ou	1			44	
Extras: (b-2, w	v-7)			9	
Total: (For 2 wkts in 45 overs)					
Fall of wic	kets: 1/4	, 2/8	8.		
Bowler	0	M	R	W	
Al-Amin	4	0	22	0	
Talukder	8	1	30	0	
Sohel	10	0	37	0	
Aslam	9	0	43	1	
Imran	10	1	34	0	
Dov	2	0	11	0	

0 12 0 Masroor Result: Biman won by eight wickets.

### 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

Day test in Wellington. New Zealand ended a trying, injury-plagued season with a rec-

three draws from nine tests, five of for 48. them in Africa. For captain Stephen Fleming haul on his home ground won him there was no understating his joy at his 13th win as captain in his

ord of three wins, three losses and

60th Test. "That's as close to the perfect Test as you can play," Fleming



98 off just 97 balls, including an unprecedented 26 runs in one over before New Zealand's young pace attack dismissed Pakistan for

fortably the biggest win in their Their previous largest winning margin came in 1984 over Eng-

land, by an innings and 132 runs in Christchurch.

It was just their 10th win by an Sri Lanka have made one change innings, and their 47th test win overall. It halted a run of four losses and two draws at home following their innings win over the West Indies in the 1999 Boxing

"Bar a couple of catches on the first day we didn't really look back. I'm absolutely delighted to finish the season with this win.

"It's the most complete per-New Zealand romped home by formance I've been involved in. an innings and 185 runs, com-McMillan's whirlwind innings

- including a world record 26 runs off an over from part-time spinner Younis Khan - helped New Zealand declare on 407 for four and claim a first innings lead

Pacemen Daryl Tuffey, James Franklin and Chris Martin then helped finish Pakistan's second innings off inside 50 overs to end the match just before 5pm on the

fourth day. Franklin took career-best test

figures of four for 26 while Tuffey took three for 38 and Martin two Tuffey's seven-wicket match

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 SEE PAGE 15

# A McMillan day

#### Cricket

AFP, Hamilton

New Zealand's Craig McMillan had no idea he was setting a world record when he smashed 26 runs off one over from Pakistan legspinner Younis Khan in the third cricket Test here Friday.

But the New Zealand batsman was soon celebrating the new mark and his naming as player of

the New Zealand international season when his team won by the match an innings and 185 runs on the fourth day to draw the series

McMillan hit five fours and a six off Younis' only over to beat a group of five players - England's Ian Botham, India's Kapil Dev and Sandeep Patel, West Indian Andy Roberts and New Zealand's Ian Smith - who shared the previous

record of 24. He hit Younis for 4, 4, 4, 4, 6, 4

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

as he neared a century with indecent haste.

His seven consecutive boundaries - the last of them a six off-spinner Saglain Mushtag was also a record as he moved from 50 to 98 in just 17 balls. "It was just one of those knocks where it clicked. Everything I tried

seemed to come off until I got to 98," McMillan said. McMillan was denied his fifth Test century when he was caught on the third man boundary for 98 after 166 minutes and 97 balls,

including 13 fours and three sixes. "It didn't matter where they bowled it, I was going to have a go, so it was just a reflex shot. In hindsight I should have let it go."

verse sweep shot three times in his record over and also hit a six over long off. He was unaware he was setting any record. "After I hit three boundaries I

thought it'd be cool to hit six boundaries in an over. I've never thought about that before." The reverse sweep has become a fashionable shot in cricket

babwe's Andy Flower perhaps the best exponent of the unorthodox stroke. McMillan has played the shot regularly in the past and regards it

around the world, with Zim-

as far from unusual. "It's a shot I practise in the nets, it's like any other shot. It works for me, but I only play it

when certain field settings are in." McMillan won a new Hyundai vehicle, as the player of the New Zealand international season, for his deeds during the series against Zimbabwe, Sri Lanka and Paki-

He rated his season highly. particularly his battles with two world-class spinners.

"I love hitting boundaries and I love taking on spinners.

"I've had a really good summer facing guys like (Muttiah) Muralitharan and Saqlain (Mushtaq). I've worked hard at reading them, but they're great bowlers."

McMillan employed the re-