



## Did U Know?

Graham Gooch of England is the only player to hit a triple century (333) and a century (123) in the same Test match. He did this against India at Lord's in 1990.



## What to WATCH

ESPN  
 Western Union World Football  
 8:00 pm  
 UEFA Cup final  
 Alaves vs Liverpool  
 9:00 pm  
 Cricket Magazine  
 The Cricket Archives 1905-1960  
 12:00 am (Friday)

Star Sports  
 Pakistan vs England  
 First Test Day One  
 Live at 3:50 pm  
 Futbol Mundial  
 2:30 am (Friday)



Malcolm Gray  
 (International Cricket Council president)

Test match cricket is the purest form of the game and commands the following of millions of fans around the world."

On the inauguration of the World Test Championship.

## Sports WHIZZ KID

**Competition 149**  
 ✓ Tick the Correct Answers  
 Post to The Daily Star  
 Win attractive prizes  
 Competition closes at 8 pm  
 May 18, 2001 and draw shortly afterwards

1. Who clinched the Monte Carlo Tennis Masters Series title?  
 Agassi Arazi Kuerten
2. Who lifted the Arj Gold Cup Sharjah tri-series cricket trophy?  
 New Zealand Pakistan Sri Lanka
3. What was the result of the South Africa and West Indies Test series?  
 4-1 3-2 2-1
4. Who was the man-of-the-match in the Bangladesh and Zimbabwe first test?  
 Heath Streak K Masood Javed Omar
5. How many Test wickets did Courtney Walsh capture when hereafter?  
 536 520 519

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

## Boys Club win Bhawal trophy

SPORTS REPORTER

The Bhawal Boys Club won the Bhawal Cricket Tournament, defeating Joy Bangla Krira Chakra by 15 runs in the final at the Ati Bhawal School ground in Keraniganj.

Batting first, the hosts scored 95 before being all out in 19.3 overs with Arif notching highest 25 runs. Joy Bangla, in reply, were all out for 80 runs in 19.4 overs. Joy Bangla's Noor Hossain, with 30 off 40 balls, was the highest scorer of the final.

Mariam Begum, MP, gave away prizes among the winners.



Bangladesh cricket coach Trevor Chappell (M) and skipper Naimur Rahman (L) and Aminul Islam during the signing ceremony of the AMF-Rangs Bowling Complex yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

## Formers back Naimur

**Cricket**

AL-AMIN

Former cricket captains and organisers are of the opinion that Naimur Rahman should be given a fair share of time to absorb the heat of big time cricket both as a skipper and a player.

They also observed that it was too early to assess the success and failure of Naimur, who only led the international newcomers in three Tests.

When Naimur was named captain to lead Bangladesh in the one-off inaugural Test match against India everybody thought that the gutsy all-rounder was the best possible choice for the demanding job. But only after seven months, the 27-year-old came under fire with people all around calling for a change.

During the month-long tour of Zimbabwe, Naimur failed to lead Bangladesh from the front. His bat did not smile and the bowling lost the edge there. Still, it was not unexpected that Bangladesh would be losing all the three Tests and as many one-day internationals under Naimur's captaincy. But the reality did not stop Naimur from becoming so unpopular. Some critics even went on to say that his six-wicket haul against India was "one stroke of luck".

Yet, former national captains Gazi Ahsraf Hossain and Roquibul

Hassan rallied behind the beleaguered Bangladesh captain.

"I think it was not a bad start for him. He has got a good game reading and showed the ability to go up the hill. He needs time to prove his mettle. It would be wise to give him at least a year to grow up in the tough world of Test cricket," said Gazi Ashraf.

Ashraf also pointed at the reality, which he felt many of us are apparently not aware of. "Gone are those days of playing cricket against the associate members. This is a different world where we are the underdogs. So, we should not consider the face of results right now. Rather, we should focus on building a team that would sustain the pressure of tough cricket."

Ashraf, who was the first long-term manager of Bangladesh team and a key figure in its ICC Trophy triumph, also considered Naimur a clear-cut person.

"He is a straightforward guy and very practical. This aspect of his character might tend someone to believe that he would not be a good motivator. But then, a captain needs these qualities even if it hurts his colleagues. Because, in the end, it is the captain who has to bear the brunt of a failure," said Ashraf.

Another former captain Roquibul Hassan also expressed his sympathy to Naimur, terming him as a better captain than Akram.

"I do not believe in democracy

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Khan and Aminul Islam. "We are the underdogs in Test cricket. It is a learning process for Bangladesh as well as for the captain. He might have made some mistakes and lost a few gambles in Zimbabwe, but he was always a confident man out in the middle," said Roquibul. "I am for giving him a full year. He is a good PR man, possesses the quality of a good leader. May be at times he looked over-confident, but this is only a learning process for him."

Both the former captains however agreed that it would be difficult for Naimur to command his side unless his own performance improves.

"It's true that a captain has to lead his side by example. But he also needs support from his teammates. I would not say that he would make the Mark Taylor of Bangladesh. But he would do better than now if he gets more matured performance from his senior team-mates," observed Ashraf.

Roquibul however felt that Naimur should be more discreet about his relationship with his teammates as reports of discontent among the players came out strongly.

When contacted, Naimur refuted the allegation of discontent but stressed that that he does not believe in the mock show of modesty.

"I do not believe in democracy

## Sylhet may host ODI in November

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) president Saber Hossain Chowdhury is optimistic of holding a one-day international match at the Sylhet Stadium during Zimbabwe's tour of Bangladesh next November.

The local cricket supremo said this after a day-long inspection on the existing facilities in Sylhet on Wednesday.

Zimbabwe during their visit, will play two Test matches and a three-game ODI series against hosts Bangladesh.

BCB have so far not announced any venues for the matches.

"Sylhet has all the basic structures which we need to hold an international match. We have a little problem regarding accommodation but hopefully it will be over before November," said Saber while talking to a group of reporters at the Sylhet Stadium after the final of the Standard Chartered 19th National School Cricket Championship on Wednesday.

He, however, added that the matter would only be finalised after an inspection team from the International Cricket Council (ICC) gives their go ahead.

"Today I have been to one newly constructed hotel which seems good enough for international standard accommodation.

"What they need to do here (in Sylhet) is to improve the condition of the gymnasium adjacent to the stadium and arrange some more indoor facilities there," Saber said.

Saber also revealed that the area earmarked for the Divisional Stadium would be converted into a regional cricket academy.

## CJKS Div I cricket

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

Mohammedan Sporting Club, Satadal Club and Abahani Krira Chakra won their respective matches of the CJKS-Ispahani First Division Cricket League at different city venues yesterday.

Mohammedan defeated Regenese Sports Club by five wickets at the MA Aziz Stadium, Chittagong.

At Dampara Police Lines ground, Satadal beat Abahani KC (jr) by 103 runs in the second match.

In the third match of the day at the Chittagong Medical College ground, Abahani KC recorded an impressive 143-run victory over Customs AC.

### BRIEFSCORES

Mohammedan vs Regenese

MOHAMMEDAN : 166/5 in 37 overs (Suman 38, Naim 34, Nannu 31 & Shakil 24; Kaiser 2/25)

REGENSEA: 165/7 in 45 overs (Joni 52, Rajesh 33; Naser 2/21 & Azim 2/34)

Satadal vs Abahani KC (jr)

SATDAL: 254/8 in 45 overs (Rashed 56, Ikrar Hasan 30\*, Bipu 26; Mohsin 2/29 & Shawkat 2/46)

ABAHANI (jr) : 151/9 in 45 overs (Liton 35, Rajib 20; Sumon 3/21 & Sujan 2/28)

Abahani KC vs Customs AC

ABAHANI KC: 281/9 in 45 overs (Irfan 78, Zisan 40, Hasanuzzaman Jhuru 31, Afzal 29, Nahid 26\*; Sumon 3/31)

CUSTOMS AC: 138/10 in 37.4 overs (Razu 34, Arman 20, Mithu 3/19; Jhuru 2/8 and Jokky 2/26).

largely in singles, the exception a thunderous square cut for four of medium pacer Kerry Jeremy.

As in the sixth game in Trinidad, West Indian opening bowlers Cameron Cuffy and Corey Collymore maintained a probing line.

Cuffy picking up three early wickets in front of his home crowd.

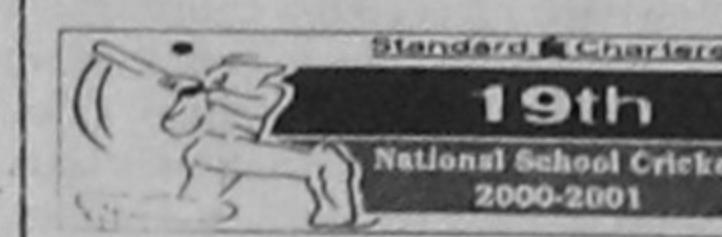
But the runs came slowly as the West Indian bowlers maintained a stalling line.

Rhodes was bowled as he looked to force left-arm spinner Neil McGarrell through the off side, the ball keeping low and taking the inside edge before clipping the off stump.

Rhodes scored 16 from 34 balls, an unusually slow strike-rate by his standards.

South Africa's chances of reaching 200 appeared to rest largely with Kallis. His runs came

## BKSP school kings



SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Krira Shikha Protidhan (BKSP) clinched their maiden school cricket title when they defeated Manikganj Government High School by 44 runs in the final of the Standard Chartered 19th National School Cricket Championship at the Sylhet Stadium on Wednesday.

Babu with three for sixteen was Manikganj's most successful bowler.

Manikganj in their turn found it impossible to get any momentum going. Only Johnny with 24, could reach double figures for them.

Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) president Saber Hossain Chowdhury witnessed the final and gave away prizes. MA Ali, chief executive of Standard Chartered Bank in Bangladesh, Abdus Sobhan Sikdar, the Deputy Commissioner of Sylhet and Dildar Hossain Selim, the general secretary of Sylhet DSA, were also present on the occasion.

BKSP's Nayeeb was later adjudged as man-of-the-final. He received Tk 3,000 as cash award.

Champion BKSP were richer by Taka 25,000 while the runners up team were awarded Taka 15,000.

### SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the Standard

Chartered 19th National School Cricket Championship final between BKSP and Manikganj Government High School at the Sylhet Stadium on Wednesday.

**BKSP**

Tanveer b Prince 0

Maruf c Babu b Liton 12

Ashraful c Sohel b Prince 0

Dhiman lbw b Babu 12

Nayeem c Sohel b Babu 6

Ashiq c Jamil b Johnny 17

Halim b Babu 3

Nadir c Rocky b Jamil 5

Rubaiyat not out 24

Asif c Rocky b Liton 10

Nazmul run out 2

Extras: (lb-2, nb-3, w-21) 26

Total: (All out in 37.2 overs) 117

Fall of wickets: 1/1, 2/2, 3/26,

4/40, 5/51, 6/57, 7/68, 8/87, 9/110.

**Bowler** O M R W

Prince 8 0 22 2

Liton 7 0 21 2

Ashim 3 0 13 0

Babu 8 2 16 3

Jamil 7 0 29 1

Johnny 4.2 0 14 1

**MANIKGANJ GOVT HIGH SCHOOL**

Babu c Tanveer b Asif 2

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BKSP captain Ashiqur Rahman receives the champions' trophy of the Standard Chartered 19th School Cricket tournament from Bangladesh Cricket Board president Saber Hossain Chowdhury after the final at the Sylhet Stadium yesterday. On Saber's left is Standard Chartered Bank's chief executive M A Ali.

## SA struggling

**Cricket**

REUTERS, Kingstown

South Africa recovered a little to 105-5 in 35 overs after winning the toss and deciding to bat in the seventh and final one-day international against the West Indies here on Wednesday.

Jacques Kallis was on 46 and Mark Boucher 15 after the South Africans had earlier been on 48-4.

Kallis and Jonty Rhodes, playing in his 200th one-day international for South Africa, shared a partnership of 39 for the fifth wicket to help the tourists back into the game.