



Did U Know?

The most expensive team Manchester United ever fielded was on the fateful night at Selhurst Park in January 1995 when their French superstar Eric Cantona attacked a fan. The side that night cost around 21 million quid.



BTV

Champions Trophy Cricket, Sharjah
Pakistan vs Sri Lanka
Final
Live at 4:30 pm

ESPN

India vs South Africa
First Test, Day One
Highlights at 10:00 am
English Premier Football League
Aston Villa vs Newcastle United
12:00 pm

India vs South Africa

First Test, Day Two
Preview
Live at 2:00 pm
India vs South Africa
First Test, Day Two
Live at 2:30 pm
UEFA Champions League
Weekly Highlights at 10:30 pm
English Premier Football League
Man United vs Liverpool
11:30 pm

STAR Sports

World Cup Soccer Mix
9:30 am
Asia Sport Show
Intl Sports News
10:00 am
Tennis Masters Series, Paris
Men's Semifinal
11:30 am

Champions Trophy Cricket, Sharjah
Pakistan vs Sri Lanka
Final
Live at 4:30 pm
Gillette World Sports Special
Intl Sports News
8:00 pm
Primera Liga
Barcelona vs Real Madrid
Live at 1:00 am (Monday)



Ali Bacher

(Executive director of the 2003 Cricket World Cup in South Africa)
"Everyone should feel that this is his/her game."

During the launching ceremony of the event on Thursday.



Tick the Correct Answers Post to
The Daily Star
Win attractive prizes
Competition closes at 8 pm
Nov 9, 2001 and draw shortly afterwards

1. Who won the Kremlin Cup? Kafelnikov Rios Kuerten	
2. Who is the new boss of Indian cricket? Dalmiya Muthiah Lela	
3. England won the first ODI against Zimbabwe by 5 wickets 20 runs 3 wickets	
4. Who won the Hong Kong Open tennis tournament? Rios Schuettler Agassi	
Name of the Japanese Open champion? Hewitt Sampras Ivanisevic	
Class of the Roll No.	
School Address	
Phone: (If any)	

Delightful different duo



SPORTS REPORTER

Khaled Mahmud and Mashrafebin-Murtoza Kowshik have plenty of difference between them. But both would cherish this Saturday with the same passion in the days to come after getting elusive call in the 14-man Bangladesh squad for the first Test against Zimbabwe.

"It was a reward for all the hard work I have put in since I was dropped last year," said Mahmud while giving his reaction to the Daily Star Sport on his recall.

Mahmud, the hero of Bangladesh's upset victory against Pakistan in the England World Cup, thought that his international career was over when the axe fell on him after the Asia Cup. The dream of the former national vice-captain to play in the inaugural Test in November last year was dashed when the selectors felt that the 32-year-old all-rounder was 'too old' for rigours of international cricket.

But a persevering Mahmud launched his bid for a remarkable comeback by scoring heavily in the National League for Dhaka Metropolis and then continued his form in the Premier League for Brothers Union. He then impressed the selectors by leading the Bangladesh A team from the front in India.

For Kowshik the path to success has been contrastingly different. He was a virtual unknown to cricket circles until last year when the teenager came to the capital to try his fortune.

However, the career of the 19-year-old express bowler from Narail almost ended before he actually took off. He was dropped by the same selectors, who picked him on Saturday, while vying with other aspirants in the selection trial for the under-17 team.

"I will never forget that day when they ruled me out for apparently being over-aged," said Kowshik over telephone.

"But my parents who came with me to Dhaka during the trials convinced the officials that my age was ok," said the six-foot-one fast

bowler.

Eventually he earned a place in the under-17 team and performed brilliantly in the subsequent age-group tournament in Dhaka. Despite that he could not feature in the National League nor did he play for any big team in Dhaka League.



KHALED MAHMUD

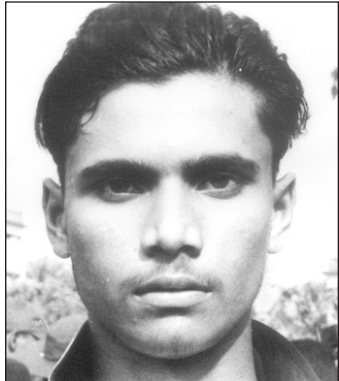
So, quite reluctantly he appeared for Azad Sporting Club, a First Division side, and did not enjoy a good time with the ball.

Fortune smiled on Kowshik with the arrival of legendary West Indies fast bowler Andy Roberts.

"My bowling improved 70 per cent after hearing the words of wisdom from Roberts. He was a blessing for me. I couldn't swing the ball, my run up was not smooth

and the delivery action was inaccurate. But once I attended Roberts camp, he put everything right," Kowshik said with a tinge of emotion.

He was supposed to go to Australia with the under-19 team. But the selectors, excited at the prospect of a genuine fast bowler in



MASHRAFE-BIN-MURTOZA

Kowshik, could not wait but to get him in the national team as soon as possible. He was deprived of an elusive training in the famous Australian Academy and sent to India with the A team instead so that he could be flown back home in time to face the Zimbabweans. The young tearaway however managed to become the leading wicket-taker on the flat tracks of India.



Chief selector of Bangladesh Cricket Board Mainul Haq makes a point during a press briefing at the Conference Room of the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Another Sachin mark



REUTERS, Bloemfontein

Sachin Tendulkar and debutant Virender Sehwag took India's fifth-wicket partnership beyond 200 as South Africa's bowlers toiled on day one of the first Test at the Goodyear Park here on Saturday.

An hour into the final session, India were 281 for four, with Tendulkar 148 not out and Sehwag on 62, their partnership worth 213.

Although the South African attack tightened their line and captain Shaun Pollock opted for more defensive fields, there was little sign of a breakthrough for the hosts as both batsmen continued to work the ball around, scoring in ones and twos rather than the blaze of boundaries between lunch and tea.

Earlier, Tendulkar became just the second Indian and youngest player ever to score 7,000 Test runs when he drove Pollock to the long-on boundary. His 26th century took him alongside Steve Waugh in fourth place on the all-time list, which is headed by India's Sunil Gavaskar, who scored 34 Test centuries.

No South African bowler escaped Tendulkar's assault, his hundred coming off just 114 balls in two hours and 20 minutes and including 15 fours and a six. He celebrated reaching the landmark with successive fours off Lance Klusener.

The supporting role played by Sehwag was one of burgeoning confidence and aggression as the new boy, deprived of much of the strike by Tendulkar's clever rotation of the bowling, still scored his runs quickly.

Pollock's decision to bowl first appeared to be based on an unusually green Bloemfontein track and

both he and Hayward, returning to Test cricket after an absence of over a year, were rewarded with substantial movement and bounce in the first hour.

The captain struck first, making



SACHIN TENDULKAR

TENDULKAR-BOX

REUTERS, Bloemfontein

Factbox on India's Sachin Tendulkar who completed his 26th Test century and passed 7,000 Test runs in the first match against South Africa on Saturday:
Style: Right-hand batsman.
Born: 24-4-73, Bombay.
Teams: Bombay, Yorkshire, India.
Tests: 85, 7,000+ runs (including current innings), avg 57.18 (before current innings). 26 centuries, 28 half-centuries. Highest score 217 not out.

shift opener Rahul Dravid edging a sharp, rising delivery to Kallis at second slip to depart for two.

Venkatsai Laxman immediately began to play his shots, cutting and then driving Pollock to the cover boundary before hooking him over square leg for six.

Shiv Das also grew in confidence, twice cutting Hayward for four, but was extremely lucky to escape on nine when Kallis took a blinding one-handed catch at slip, only for umpire Orchard to signal that Pollock had overstepped.

Das' patient start was undone on nine when he edged a delivery from Hayward on to his stumps.

Laxman was unfortunate to go for 32 when he gloved a pull at an innocuous delivery from Hayward and turned to see Mark Boucher take a fine catch down the leg-side.

Captain Saurav Ganguly made 14 before he spliced a vicious delivery from Kallis towards gully where Gary Kirsten dived to take a superb catch, although it was only approved after referral to television umpire Ian Howell.

Scoreboard at tea on the first day of the first Test between India and South Africa in Bloemfontein on Saturday:
INDIA: First innings
Das b Hayward 9
Dravid c Kallis b Pollock 2
Laxman c Boucher b Hayward 32
Tendulkar not out 132
Ganguly c Kirsten b Kallis 14
Sehwag not out 52
Extras: (lb-6, w-4, nb-4) 14
Total: (For 4 wks) 255
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Chess in France Zia keeps the lead

SPORTS REPORTER

International Master Ziaur Rahman is sharing the lead at the 1er Open International Rhodie in France on completion of the 7th round yesterday.

Zia drew with GM Legky Nikolay of Ukraine to collect 5.5 points. Enamul Hossain Rajib and IM Abdullah Al Rakib earned 4.5 points each at the end of this round.

A total of 151 players, including 12 Grandmasters, are participating in the 9-day tournament, which began on October 27.

Ispahani League gets underway

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The Ispahani Mohanagori Pioneer Football League 2001, organised by the Chittagong Mahanagori Kriira Sangstha (CMKS), kicked off here yesterday.

In the opening match, defending champions Blue Star defeated Rampur Udichi Sangsad by 4-1 goals.

Raju Mutsudi, Mohammad Yeasin Hossain, Nurul Islam and Shakhawat Hossain scored one goal each for the winners while Mohammad Shafiq pulled one back for Udichi.

Remaining matches of the first round will be held at Halishahar Police Ground.

Earlier, Commerce Minister Amir Khasru Mahmud Chowdhury performed the inauguration as the chief guest at Dampara Police Line ground at 3pm. Managing director of sponsor Ispahani Group of Companies, Mirza Salman Ispahani, was present as special guest.

CDSA names friendly team

Chittagong Divisional Sports Association (CDSA) here yesterday announced the names of officials and players of 18-member Chittagong Divisional Cricket team for a friendly limited-overs match against the visiting Zimbabweans at the MA Aziz Stadium on November 21.

A selection committee was formed at a meeting chaired by Chittagong Divisional Commissioner and CDSA president AKM Shamsul Haq on November 1.

Former national skipper Minhazul Abedin Nannu will lead the divisional cricket team while fellow Chittagonian Akram Khan will act as his deputy.

The other members of the team are -- Enamul Haq Moni, Shafuddin Babu, Golam Mortaza, Ahsanul Haq Sijan, Azam Iqbal, Suja Irfan, Mohammad Ashraf, Mohammad Sharif, Anis A Hakim Khan, Sumon Barua, Mohammad Hasan, Masum ud Doula, Mohammad Alamgir, Mohammad Tariq, Sabbir Khan and Aftab Ahmed.

Syed Abul Basher and Sultanul Abedin Chowdhury have been named manager and coach respectively.

All the players have been asked to report to divisional cricket development officer Subrata Chowdhury at CDSA Office at 11 am on November 9.

Carl, Brian give WI solid start

REUTERS, Colombo

Skipper Carl Hooper hit 117 and Brian Lara 43 as West Indies launched their tour of Sri Lanka in positive fashion on Saturday.

Hooper batted for just short of four hours, hammering four sixes and seven fours against a Sri Lanka A side led by experienced Test batsman Hashan Tillakaratne.

Lara, meanwhile, despite being dogged by long-term hamstring problems, played his part in a 129-run fourth-wicket stand with his captain.

Marlon Samuels chipped in with 54 as the touring side, put in to bat, closed the first day of the three-day encounter on 334 for seven.

Darren Ganga (nought) and Ramnaresh Sarwan (seven), however, two young batsmen expected to make a mark on tour, both failed at the top of the order as West Indies recovered from 53 for three.

Pace bowler Ravindra Pushpakumara, another Sri Lankan Test player, took four for 85 at the Nondescripts Cricket Club.

West Indies play three Tests against Sri Lanka, the first starting on November 13, before taking part in a triangular one-day tournament also involving Zimbabwe.

Scoreboard at stumps on the first day of the three-day tour match between Sri Lanka A and the West Indies at the Nondescripts Cricket Club
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Captain Question



BY ANIMADVERTER

Captaincy is one of the most demanding aspects of the game of cricket. Whether they succeed or fail, all captains eventually leave their mark.

Test playing countries tend to choose a skipper who not only possesses leadership ability but also can pull his weight with either bat or ball.

In the case of Bangladesh it could be argued that our captain Naimur Rahman has not demonstrated those traits to satisfaction after being appointed last year.

The 27-year-old is classified as an all-rounder but hasn't delivered anything notable to justify that tag in the five Tests the country has played so far.

Naimur, on performance only, can not be an automatic choice as a player at the moment. Frankly speaking, he was always an 'in and out' player until the news of his appointment for the inaugural Test against India took most observers by surprise.

Apart from the inaugural Test last November where Naimur performed exceptionally well with the ball he took six wickets in

India's first innings--Naimur has done little to silence his critics and controversies regarding his bowling action, hasn't helped his cause either.

His bowling action was called into question only months after the inaugural Test by distinguished umpires David Shepherd and Steve



NAIMUR RAHMAN

Bucknor.

To make matters worse, Naimur has failed to notch up even a half-century in 10 Test innings' he has batted. His highest score is 88 against Sri Lanka.

Critics are saying that the selectors are still picking him on the sole consideration that he is the captain.

This leads to the next question, is he indispensable as a captain?

He has led Bangladesh to five predictable Test defeats. But the manner in which the team has fared under him has raised quite a few eyebrows.

During the tour of Zimbabwe, Bangladeshi journalists accompanying the team reported covert division and dissent in the squad with some senior members expressing their displeasure at the 'autocratic' way of the skipper on and off the field.

Some players complained that Naimur doesn't consult anybody on the field and hardly ever entertains the views of others.

The younger players were said to be fearful of the captain and kept a distance.

Naimur's cricketing vision at times has also left a lot to be desired.

When the Pakistani batsmen were putting the Bangladesh bowlers to sword in amassing 546 runs in less than a day and a half in the

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Bangladesh sensational batsman Mohammad Ashraful (L) and recalled former national vice-captain Khaled Mahmud are doing some stretching exercises at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Duel in the desert today

Injury worries both Pakistan, Sri Lanka



AFP, Sharjah

Rivals Pakistan and Sri Lanka were battling injuries to key players as they harked up for the Champions' Trophy one-day final here on Sunday.

While seasoned Pakistani opener Saad Anwar has a "50-50" chance of playing due to a wrist injury, Sri Lanka have all but given up hope of fielding wicketkeeper Ramesh Kaluwitharana and fast bowler Dilhara Fernando.

Kaluwitharana broke his right index finger while batting on Friday, while Fernando's sore back is a major concern even though bone scans over the last two days ruled out anything serious.

Sri Lankan captain Sanath Jayasuriya said the decision on playing Fernando will be made on Sunday morning, but with the upcoming home series against the West Indies less than a fortnight away, he may not be risked.

"We have to take these setbacks in our stride and do well with what we have," Jayasuriya said.

Sri Lanka have a tried and tested replacement for Kaluwitharana in Kumar Sangakkara, but Fernando's absence could force a shake-up in the attack.

New seamer Prabhath Nissanka is likely to make way for Dulpriyanage after being smashed for 71 runs from nine overs during Pakistan's morale-boosting seven-wicket win Friday.

Versatile off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan, who was badly

hattrick of titles at this desert venue. "A win does wonders for a team's confidence and that is exactly what has happened for us," Waqar said.

"We are very keen to win this tournament. Losing is not an option for the boys and I want that feeling to continue."

The Pakistani captain admitted Anwar had a "50-50" chance of playing, but legendary all-rounder Wasim Akram's return after being rested for a game will boost the attack.

"It was great to win on Friday without Wasim. It showed we have a lot of depth. With him back we will be even stronger."

The wealth of talent in Pakistan was evident when Naveed Latif, a 23-year-old from the small town of Saragodha, smashed a century against Sri Lanka on Friday in only his second one-day.

Latif, who got a chance to play only because Anwar was unfit, showed no signs of nerves as he smashed nine boundaries and a six.

With the irrepressible Inzamam-ul-Haq also finding form with a century, Pakistan can look forward to a profitable outing in the final worth 120,000 dollars for the winners.

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Twin tons see Pak home



REUTERS, Sharjah

Centuries from Naveed Latif and Inzamam-ul-Haq helped Pakistan to a seven-wicket victory over Sri Lanka in the Sharjah Champions' Trophy Friday.

The pair's third-wicket stand of 219 saw Pakistan overhaul the Sri Lankans' 272 for nine in 49.2 overs with Naveed contributing 113 and Inzamam 118 not out to their 276 for three.

A packed house of 20,000 also saw Sri Lanka skipper Sanath Jayasuriya achieve a personal milestone by scoring his 7,000th run in one-day cricket.

The result leaves both teams with three victories and one defeat in the tournament which also

featured Zimbabwe.

The early losses of Pakistan opener Shahid Afridi and Yousef Youhana, both for 11, brought Naveed -- playing in only his second match -- and Inzamam to the crease and they turned the match with an elegant exhibition of stroke-play.

The 23-year-old Naveed grew in confidence in the company of Inzamam, who paced his innings by exploiting yawning gaps in the field.

Naveed competed his 130-ball century in the 43rd over with eight fours and one six, taking a single off Kumar Dharmasena. Two overs later it was the turn of Inzamam, who reached the mark with a single off Prabhath Nissanka. His knock included 10 fours and two sixes.

Sri Lanka built their innings around fluent half-centuries from

Avishka Gunawardene and Mahela Jayawardene.

Their innings was given a perfect start by openers Jayasuriya and Gunawardene, who put on 95 runs before the skipper fell to Afridi for 36.

Gunawardene followed Jayasuriya in 23rd over, miscuing his intended hook to Inzamam for 57.

Jayasawardene took over and frustrated the Pakistan attack which missed Wasim Akram, who was rested ahead of the final.

Pakistan fought back with a double-blow by Waqar Younis in the 43rd over when he took the wickets of Russell Arnold and Kumar Sangakkara.

Jayasawardene was finally removed
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Security satisfactory



REUTERS/AFP, New Delhi

England cricket officials said Friday they were satisfied with the security arrangements for the cricket tour of India beginning this month, which is now expected to go ahead as scheduled.

"The security arrangements promised by the Indian government are satisfactory," said John Carr, director of cricket operations of the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB).

He also said, "Travelling to both New Delhi and Calcutta in the last couple of days, we were struck by the fact that life continues entirely as normal in India."

Carr and Tim O'Gorman, who represented the England cricket

players, and first secretary of the British High Commission in New Delhi, Peter Holland, had discussed the security situation with Indian officials over the last two days.

Five English players -- Andrew Caddick, Robert Croft, Marcus Trescothick, Ashley Giles and Craig White -- had last week asked for more time to consider whether to go on the tour in view of the US-led military conflict in nearby Afghanistan.

Paceman Caddick and off-spinner Croft pulled out of the tour on Tuesday because of security fears, while the three others confirmed their availability.

"The major concern had always been world security and not specifically India," Carr said, adding the security arrangement by Indian authorities would "substantially

address the concerns of English cricketers."

"It is essential that our team management and players have peace of mind so that they can concentrate on cricket. We look forward to an exciting Test series."

He said there were no concerns about the venues chosen.

President of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) Jagmohan Dalmiya said only two or minor changes had to be made in the itinerary.

"The dates of one or two matches may be changed by a couple of days. The itinerary has been agreed upon by both the boards a long time back."

"We had wide-ranging discussions on various issues related to the

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