

# Star SPORT

DHAKA THURSDAY NOVEMBER 15, 2001, E-MAIL: dssports@gononet.com



## Did U Know?

Play at Taunton in July 1954 was relieved by a maiden century by Leslie Angell, the Somerset opening batsman, and by a strange bowling performance from Hanif Mohammad of Pakistan. He displayed unusual versatility by bowling four right-handed deliveries and two left in one over before lunch, a feat he repeated after tea.



## ETV & BTB

**Bangladesh vs Zimbabwe**  
Second Test, Day One  
Live at 9:30 am

## ESPN

English Premier Football League  
Middlesbrough vs Leicester City  
11:00 am

Fulham vs Man United  
5:30 pm

Western Union World Football  
8:00 pm

## Sportscentre Hindi

Sport News  
Live at 8:30 pm

World Cup Soccer Mix  
9:00 pm

Game of the Week  
Football  
9:30 pm

## STAR Sports

Sportsline Today  
Sport News  
7:30 am

English Premier Football League  
Middlesbrough vs Leicester City  
1:00 pm

WTA Tour Championships, Munich  
3:30 pm

Asia Sport Show  
Int'l Sports News  
6:00 pm

Sportsline Tonight  
Sport News  
Live at 8:00 pm

Harsha Online  
Cricket Talk Show  
11:00 pm



## Brett Lee

(Australian fast bowler)  
"I always bowl my quickest when I'm not trying to bowl quick. I know that sounds funny but it comes down to rhythm."

## Star WHIZZ KID COMPETITION 161

Tick the Correct Answers Post to

The Daily Star  
Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm  
Nov 23, 2001 and draw shortly afterwards

- Who won the man-of-the-match award in the Sharjah Champions trophy final?  
Wasim Waqar
  - Who clinched the Munich WTA 'touring singles' title?  
Hingis Davenport
  - South Africa defeated India in the first test at Bloemfontein by what margin?  
140-run 7-wkt 9-wkt
  - How many Test centuries has Sachin Tendulkar scored?  
30 22
  - Bangladesh will play 2003 WC cricket's opening match against whom?  
UAE Kenya Canada
- Class..... Roll No.....  
School Address.....  
Phone: (If any).....

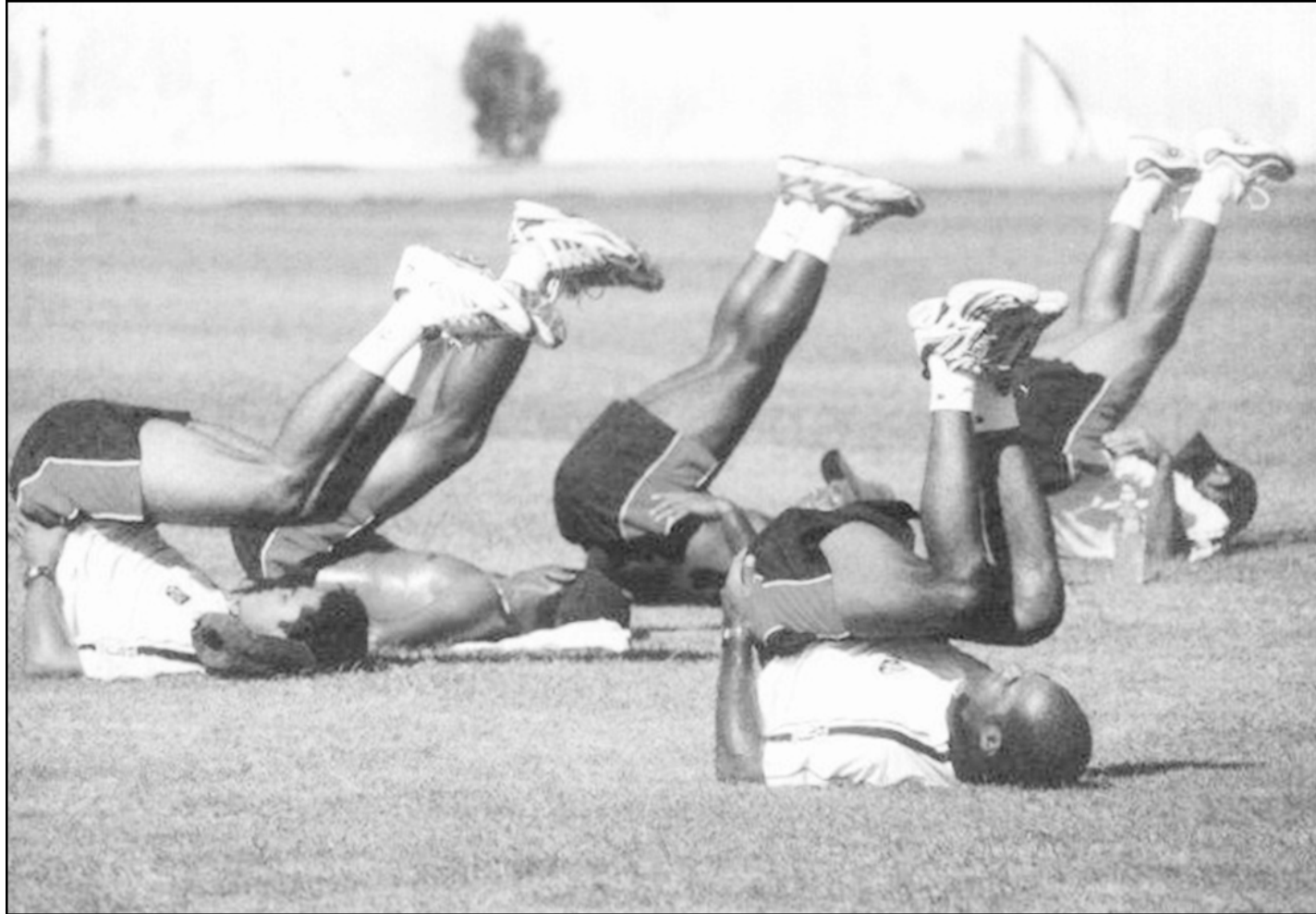


PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

Bangladesh cricketers having a practice session at the MA Aziz Stadium on Wednesday. The second and last Coca-Cola Test match between Bangladesh and Zimbabwe starts at this venue today.

## Hosts opt for a gamble

**Cricket**

SPORTS REPORTER, from Chittagong

Akram Khan gets the opportunity of playing in front of his home crowd as Bangladesh selectors announced yesterday the playing eleven for the final Test of the two-match Coca-Cola Series against Zimbabwe.

The whole Chittagong is bubbling with enthusiasm and euphoria in anticipation of the first ever Test match in the port city that is going to start at the MA Aziz Stadium today.

After two days of bright sun light, the pitch, outfield and the stadium as a whole looked all set yesterday for a nine-day cricket festival which also includes a one-day international and a limited-overs practice match between the tourists and Chittagong divisional team.

Apart from Akram, who replaces all-rounder Khaled Mahmud, young seamer Mohammad Sharif is the other change in the side that played in Dhaka. Sharif comes in for a dependable left-arm pacer Monjurul Islam.

The absence of Mahmud means Naimur Rahman and Company will go into the match with only two seamers.

Zimbabwe, who picked a new captain in Stuart Carlisle Tuesday night after Brian Murphy flew back home with a wrist injury, has included pacer Garry Brant to fill in the bowling void left by leg-spinner Murphy.

Both teams had their final nets at the MA Aziz Stadium yesterday.

"This wicket looks good. But I am expecting occasional low bounce than that of Dhaka. But that would not be a problem because we all have already played here last month," said Bangladesh captain Naimur after the

nets. Naimur Rahman hoped that his team would not commit the same mistakes they did in the first Test.

He also said Akram Khan was not included in the team on the fact that he is a local hero. "A batsman of Akram's calibre does not need any other identity to be in the team. He was not included in Dhaka as we had a different strategy there. This time we thought of bolstering our batting strength. That is why he is here."

About Monjurul, Naimur said he was not effective with the old ball in Dhaka.

"Since we are going into the match with only two pacers, it is obvious that they will have to be effective both with new and old ball. That is why we have taken Sharif because his more impressive with the old ball," Naimur opined.

On his debut series in Zimbabwe, the 17-year-old impressed all with his variation and imagination.

On the contrary, Zimbabwe are going to take the field with four seamers in Friend, Olunga, Heath Streak and debutant Brant.

"We had a bit of bad luck in Dhaka. And this is the only chance to make up that. We have a good team and everybody is expecting to win this match," said Zimbabwe captain Stuart Carlisle, adding that Douglas Miller and Trevor Gripper will look after the spin department.

"Our target will be to score 450 to 500 if we bat first. If we bowl first we will try to book Bangladesh within 80 to 90," said Carlisle, who also revealed that he was offered the captaincy before the Sharjah Cup.

"I needed some more time to accept the proposal at that time. But now I am fully ready to lead my country from the front. This will also help me to become more responsible," he said.

## Seventh straight win for U-19s

**SPORTS REPORTER**

The Bangladesh Under-19 team continued their impressive showing in their tour of Australia when they recorded a 98-run victory against Kensington at Parkinson Oval on Wednesday.

The visitors, defending a competitive score of 232, bowled the home team out for 134 to pick up their seventh straight victory.

Captain Nafees Iqbal scored a fine 61 and Ali Aman Rajon hammered a quick-fire 41. Rajon also picked up two wickets to complete a fine all round show.

Murad with four for 37, was the most successful among the Bangladesh youth bowlers.

The Youth team is in Australia on a six-week training tour as part of its preparation for the World Youth Cricket Championship, to be staged in New Zealand in January next year.

## Nitol-Tata soccer

**UNB, Dhaka**

Sylhet Chaturanga Jubo Sangha emerged zonal champions to reach the final round of the Nitol-Tata National Football League for the second consecutive time eliminating Sunamganj Target SC by 3-1 in Sylhet yesterday.

Khokon made a hat-trick for the winners while Russel pulled back one for the losers.

In the Services Zone at the Army Stadium, Bangladesh Army automatically moved into the zonal final as their opponents Bangladesh Police did not field their team.

Besides, Narsingdhi GRC Sporting Club, Sirairganj Januna Traders, Chuadanga Uddipon Club, Chandpur Natun Bazar KC and Udaykati Jubo Samity reached the next round after winning their respective matches at the different venues across the country yesterday.

SEE PAGE 15

## Delta Life h'ball final today

**UNB, Dhaka**

Viquarunnissa Noon College and Shamsunnahar Hall of Dhaka University reached the final of the seventh Delta Life girls' handball tournament eliminating their respective rivals in the semifinals at the Dhanmondi Sultana Kamal Women's Sports Complex yesterday.

The two teams will clash in the final today at 3 pm at the same venue. Fisheries and Livestock Minister Sadek Hossain is expected to be the chief guest in the final.

In the day's first semifinal, Shamsunnahar Hall earned a comfortable 24-7 victory over Lalmatia Women's College after dominating the first session by 13-3.

Swapna scored 13, Moli 4 and Shameen 3 for the winners while Erina contributed seven goals for the losers.

In the day's other semifinal, Viquarunnissa outplayed Mirpur Girls' Ideal Laboratory Institute 8-3. Daina scored 6, Nurun Nahar 4 for the winners while Sumana, Jesmine and Litu netted one each for the losers.

The third deciding match between two losing semifinalists will also be held today at 2 pm.

## SERIES SNIPPETS

**Cricket**

**HASAN MASOOD** from Chittagong

Former national captain Akram Khan is relishing the prospect of playing in front of his home crowd.

"I was hoping to play in Dhaka. But since that did not happen, I want to celebrate my come-back match by making some runs with the bat," said the burly Chittagonian while talking to reporters after his name was included in the playing eleven for historic first Test at the port city.

"This is my home ground. I grew up playing here. I will definitely try my best to make it a memorable match for myself, the team and Chittagong," said Akram.

The experienced middle-order batsman was dropped in the second match of the Asian Test Championship against Sri Lanka in September for his poor run of form. He was also not considered for the First Test against Zimbabwe in Dhaka.

Akram has scored 161 runs in eight Test innings' at an average of 20.12. His highest score is 44 against Zimbabwe at Harare.

## BASHAR EYING MAIDEN TON

Habibul Bashar wants to repeat the feat he achieved in Chittagong the last time he was here.

The inform right-hander, who scored 143 against England A in October 1999 in a four-day match, said that he hoped to make Chittagong the stage for his first Test hundred.

"I will try my best to stay at the wicket until I score my first Test ton,"

said the soft-spoken Bashar.

Bashar is arguably the most consistent batsman in Tests for the country. He has so far made 422 runs in six Test innings inclusive of five fifties at an average of 38.36. But just when he had looked set to convert those fifties into a hundred, his temperament has let him down.

## DRINK COKE OR FACE THE JOKE!

Murphy, who led Zimbabwe to one product authorised to drink any other product than that of the national cricket team. Bewused, Parveen took a while to swallow the intrusion and then snapped back: "I have every right to drink what ever I want. I am not a player and not supposed to abide by Coca Cola's rules."

**TOURISTS WANT STRANG**  
The Zimbabwe team management has asked for veteran leg spinner Paul Strang as a replacement for their injured captain Brian Murphy.

Murphy, who led Zimbabwe in the first Test at Dhaka, returned home with an injury on his left wrist on Tuesday.

"We have asked for Paul but all depends on the Zimbabwe Cricket Union (ZCU). We are still not sure whether the Board would accept our proposal," said new captain Stuart Carlisle during the practice session at the MA Aziz Stadium on Wednesday.

**CRICKET BRINGS MUSIC TO CHITTAGONG**  
A musical audio cassette titled "Cricket, Welcome Chittagong" was formally released here on Wednesday to mark the historic first Test.

The cassette contains a nine-minute Bangla song on cricket on one side and its English version on the other.

The song is composed and produced by Rupom Chowdhury. Surabandhu Ashoke Chowdhury is the singer.

The cassette was formally launched with the producer presenting one to national captain Naimur Rahman after the nets.



PHOTO: STAR

A bird's-eye view of MA Aziz Stadium in downtown Chittagong. The arena will be baptised as the 82nd Test venue in the world when Bangladesh and Zimbabwe meet in the second Test today.

## Muttiah mazes Windies

**Cricket**

**AFP, Galle**

Off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan led a Sri Lankan fight-back with a six-wicket haul on the second day of the first cricket Test against the West Indies here Wednesday.

The bowling wizard triggered a West Indies collapse by taking the prize scalp of Brian Lara (178), with the final six wickets falling for just 25 runs to end the tourists' innings on 448.

Muralitharan finished with 6-126, his 29th five-wicket haul in Tests, and he was well supported by left-arm seamer Chaminda Vaas, who took the other four wickets.

Sri Lanka then survived the early dismissal of skipper Sanath

Jayasuriya to reach 103-1 in reply, with opener Marvan Atapattu (46) and Kumar Sangakkara (27) at the crease.

Jayasuriya slammed a 19-ball 25 before being caught at point by Neil McGarrell off fast bowler Mervyn Dillon.

But opener Atapattu and Sangakkara steadied the innings with an unbroken 66-run stand for the second wicket.

The West Indies found no one to prop up their innings after Lara fell in the session after lunch.

The tourists, guided by the resurgent Lara, were strongly placed at 423-4 before succumbing to the home team's disciplined spin-pace combination.

The 29-year-old Muralitharan, testing the batsmen with his turn and flight, claimed the vital wicket of

Lara when the West Indian top- edged a sweep to be caught by diving wicketkeeper Sangakkara.

Lara, 117 overnight, smashed 19 boundaries in his 293-ball knock and looked set to put his team on course for a massive total before the Sri Lankan bowlers struck.

Vaas kept up the pressure from the other end, accounting for Ridley Jacobs (eight) and Dillon (five).

Muralitharan dismissed McGarrell and Colin Stuart off successive balls in his 54th over to end the West Indies knock.

It was an impressive comeback by the Sri Lankan bowlers after they had struggled for wickets in the morning session in the face of Lara's rich stroke-play.

SEE PAGE 15



PHOTO: STAR

Zimbabwe cricketers do some stretching as part of their training for the second Test at the MA Aziz Stadium yesterday.

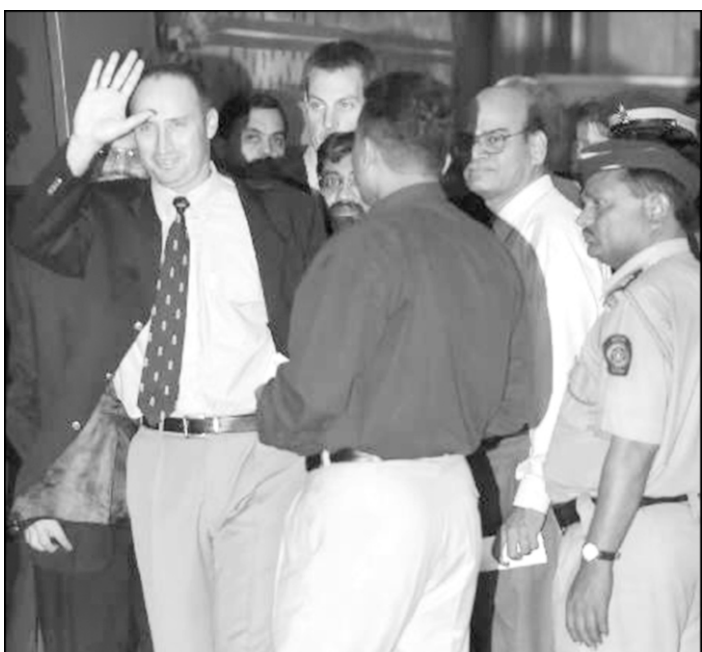


PHOTO: INTERNET

England captain Nasser Hussain (L), surrounded by securitymen, waves to Indian fans and journalists as he leaves the Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport in Bombay early on November 14.