



Did U Know?

Jimmy Greaves holds the record for the most League goals scored for Tottenham Hotspur.



What to WATCH

ESPN

Sportscentre Hindi
Sport News
6:30 am
English Premier Football League
Highlights at 7:30 am
India vs South Africa
Second Test, Day Four
Highlights at 8:30 am
English Premier Football League
West Ham vs Charlton Athletic
9:30 am

India vs South Africa
Second Test, Day Five
Live at 2:30 pm

Sportscentre Hindi
Sport News
Live at 10:30 pm

STAR Sports

Sportsline Today
Sport News
7:30 am
Tennis Masters Series, Sydney
Highlights at 9:30 am
Sportsline Today
Sport News
12:30 pm
English Premier Football League
Arsenal vs Tottenham Hotspur
1:00 pm

Sportsline Tonight
Sport News
Live at 8:00 pm

Primera Liga
Sevilla vs Real Madrid
8:30 pm
Sportsline Tonight
Sport News
10:30 pm



TALK TURKEY



Romario

(Brazilian star footballer)
"If I am selected it will be good, for me, my family and all Brazil."
On his possible selection for the national side.



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- Who won the man-of-the-match award in the Sharjah Champions trophy final?
Wasim Waqar Vaas
 - Who clinched the Munich WTA 'tour singles' title?
Hingis Davenport
 - South Africa defeated India in the first test at Bloemfontein by
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
Name whom?
UAE Kenya Canada
- Class. Roll No.
School Address
Phone: (If any)

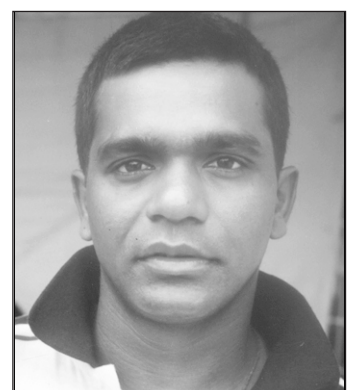
Beginning of the end?

Cricket

LENIN GANI

Aminul Islam and Akram Khan have served the country well whenever the chips were down but even they will be the first to admit that perhaps that is not the case any more.

For as long as we can remember Bangladesh have been associated



AMINUL ISLAM

with the two dependable As. The pair came into the senior team at same time, featured in quite a number of the ICC Trophy campaigns together and above all even captained the team for several years. The similarities do not end there as they were born in the same year.

Aminul, 33, since playing in the historic Test against India last November has witnessed a decline in form.

After hitting 145 on home soil against India at the Bangabandhu National Stadium, Aminul became only the third batsman to score a century on debut. But the right-hander however has failed to notch another three-figure score.

In six Tests including the latest two against Zimbabwe, Aminul has just managed one century and two fifties under his belt.

That is still however far better than his long time friend Akram's. The burly Chittagong neither has a century nor a half-century to his name. His average for a top-order batsman is very ordinary too.

Having played a record number of matches together both batsmen

have failed to do justice to their legion of fans across the country.

In the Tests in Dhaka and Chittagong, Akram and Aminul were dismissed cheaply and that too at critical junctures.

Being the batting linchpin on paper should not be enough to ensure anyone's place in a team at this level. If the batting of key players is not strong enough, in that case, the whole structure will cr-



AKRAM KHAN

tainly cave in. And repeatedly this has happened as their dismissals were the signal for rest to fold.

Their performance on Sunday typifies the situation. After the tremendous work of century-maker Habibul Bashar and opener Javed Omar, we watched in horror as the two pillars of Bangladesh crumbled

within the blink of an eye.

Nothing can be blamed in the pitch at the MA Aziz Stadium, which on the fourth day was still as placid as day one. Until disaster struck the Bangladesh innings, as they began their assault on the follow-on target, hardly a ball troubled the batsmen. Even makeshift opener Al-Shahriar, who has come under fire for string of poor performances, was able to make a decent score.

If the manner in which both Aminul and Akram were sent back suggests that they seriously lack confidence, it is very sad and at the same time puzzling. Because then only the selectors know the reason to include such a nervous pair unsure when to come on to the front foot.

In contrast, young Mohammed Ashraf has already exhibited his powers of concentration and temperament while in the face of adversity. With wickets falling at regular intervals, he held the first innings together on way to scoring the second highest 33.

The batsmen who will come in at numbers four and five are crucial in any team's hopes of building a substantial total. More importantly they are often the last of the recognised batsmen.

Test cricket is a learning process but Bangladesh must not fall into the trap of selecting players based purely on reputations. Actions speak louder than words.



BANGLADESH-ZIMBABWE SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at stumps on the fourth day of the Coca-Cola second and final Test between Bangladesh and Zimbabwe at the MA Aziz Stadium in Chittagong on Sunday.

ZIMBABWE: First innings 542 for 7 in 160 overs declared (A Flower 114 not out, C Wishart 114, t Gripper 112, D Marillier 52, D Ebrahim 41; M bin-Mortuza 2-101, Enamul Haque 2-134)

BANGLADESH: First innings 251 all out in 95.3 overs (H Bashar 108, M Ashraf 33; G Flower 4-43, H Streak 2-32, D Marillier 2-39)

BANGLADESH:	Second innings (overnight 227-4)	R	M	B	4	6
Javed Omar lbw b Travis Friend	80	416	322	9	0	0
Al Shahriar lbw b Henry Olonga	40	116	67	7	0	0
Habibul Bashar c sub (P Strang) b Grant Flower	178	149	12	0	0	0
Aminul Islam c Trevor Gripper b Grant Flower	1	8	5	0	0	0
Akram Khan b Grant Flower	2	14	13	0	0	0
Mohammad Ashraf lbw b Doug Marillier	10	146	91	1	0	0
Naimur Rahman lbw b Doug Marillier	28	57	49	3	0	0
Khaled Masood c Dion Ebrahim b Grant Flower	12	51	42	2	0	0
Enamul Haque c and b Doug Marillier	0	17	19	0	0	0
Mashrafe-bin-Mortuza st A Flower b Doug Marillier	0	5	1	0	0	0
Mohammad Sharif not out	24	19	11	1	2	0
Extras: (b-2, lb-16, w-1, nb-9)	28					
Total: (All out in 126.4 overs, 518 mins)	301					

Fall of wickets: 1-73 (Al Shahriar), 2-195 (Bashar), 3-201 (Aminul), 4-203 (Akram), 5-227 (Omar), 6-264 (Ashraf), 7-267 (Naimur), 8-267 (Enamul), 9-267 (Bin-Mortuza), 10-301 (Masood)

Bowler	O	M	R	W	
Travis Friend	25	7	53	1	
Gary Brent	25	6	58	0	
Grant Flower	38.4	18	63	4	
Henry Olonga	15	5	31	1	
Douglas Marillier	19	4	57	4	
Trevor Gripper	4	2	21	0	
ZIMBABWE: Second innings	R	M	B	4	6
Dion Ebrahim b Mashrafe-bin-Mortuza	0	3	5	0	0
Stuart Carlisle c Akram Khan b Mashrafe-bin-Mortuza	11	17	6	2	0
Grant Flower not out	0	5	1	0	0
Mashrafe-bin-Mortuza not out	0	7	4	0	0
Total: (For 2 wickets in 2.4 overs, 17 mins)	11				

Fall of wickets: 1-0 (Ebrahim), 2-0 (Carlisle) Did not bat: Andy Flower, Gary Brent, Craig Wishart, Douglas Marillier, Heath Streak, Travis Friend, Henry Olonga

Bowler Mashrafe-bin-Mortuza
Enamul Haque

Result: Zimbabwe won by 8 wickets.
Series: Zimbabwe won the 2-Test series 1-0.
Man-of-the-match: Grant Flower.

Umpires: Shawkat Rahman Chinu (Bangladesh) and Asoka de Silva (Sri Lanka).

TV Umpire: Jahangir Alam (Bangladesh).

Match Referee: Hanumant Singh (India).

Toss: Bangladesh.



OUT AND OVER: Zimbabwe spinner Douglas Marillier (R) appeals successfully for an lbw decision against Bangladesh captain Naimur Rahman on the fifth day of the Coca-Cola second Test at the MA Aziz Stadium in Chittagong on Monday. Later on Naimur was dropped from the national squad, both as captain and as a player.

Div I Chess Biman join Titas atop

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Biman joined Titas Club at the top of the table of the Mercantile Bank First Division Chess League on Monday.

At the end of the fourth round both teams were on 13 points.

Holders Titas Club defeated Anirban chess School 2.5-1.5 at the Bangladesh Chess Federation Auditorium.

In this round Grand Master Niaz Murshed returned to the table in style by beating Almasur Rahman. Niaz's teammate Mehdi Hasan won against Mahtabuddin Ahmed.

Anirban's Nagir Salehin however reduced the margin by defeating Syed Ruhul Kabir Shiplu.

The board involving Arman Monir and Minhazuddin Ahmed ended in a draw.

Runners-up Biman outplayed Sonali Bank Sports and Recreation Club by 3-1 points.

The country's second GM Ziaur Rahman beat CJ Arbind, International Master Reefat-bin-Sattar won against Pritom Sharma and Enamul Hossain Rajib defeated Aminul Islam.

Arifuzzaman Shikder of the Bank team stunned IM Abdullah-Al-Rakib.

In other results, there were wins for Bangladesh Ansars, Mohakhal Prodig Sangha, Leonine Chess Club, Dhaka University Chess Club and Nakhla para Jubo Kallyan Sangha.

There was only one drawn encounter between Bangsal Progoti Samaj Kalyan Sangstha and Dhaka Daba Ghar.

Tendulkar a ball doctor?

AFP, Port Elizabeth

Six Indian cricketers were due to appear before match referee Mike Denness on three separate charges after the fourth day's play in the second Test against South Africa Monday.

Sachin Tendulkar was accused of ball tampering and the other five players on charges of showing dissent and excessive appealing, according to Gerald Majola, chief executive of the United Cricket Board of South Africa. All the incidents occurred during the third day's play Sunday.

Majola cleared up earlier confusion about the number of players and the charges they faced but said he could not name the players.

He confirmed, however, that Tendulkar would appear in connection with ball tampering and that Indian captain Sourav Ganguly was implicated in the other charges because he had failed to control his players.

The others in trouble were believed to be Virender Sehwag, Harbhajan Singh, Shiv Sunder Das and Deep Dasgupta.

Tendulkar was being investigated after television pictures appeared to show him tampering with the seam of the ball during Sunday's play.

The players appeared before Denness, a former England captain,

SEE PAGE 15

Carlisle can't forget Ctg

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER, from Chittagong

Acting Zimbabwe captain Stuart Carlisle wants to savour the success



STUART CARLISLE

in Chittagong for the rest of his life. "I'm very pleased to have won my first Test as captain. It was mainly

because of my bowlers who gave tremendous support in winning this match. It was quite difficult to bowl out our opponents here. But we stuck to a plan," said the beaming Carlisle to reporters after winning the second Test by eight wickets on Monday.

He also praised the performance of the home team.

"I always knew that we would have to chase some runs. But winning the match before lunch was earlier than we had expected," Carlisle said.

His Bangladesh counterpart Naimur Rahman found some positive signs in the defeat. "We started badly. But we showed signs of making a comeback in the course of the game. The batting of Bashar and Javed also speaks volumes of our ability.

"I think Javed's dismissal proved to be the turning point. Besides, a couple of our batsmen were out playing full tosses," said Naimur in his last Test as captain.

He was also unhappy with his own performance.

"I am not doing well and I don't know what's the matter. It is true that my performance has fallen but not because of the responsibility as captain," said a dejected Naimur.

"I think a lot of credit should go to Bangladesh. They fought very hard." Asked whether he thought the win would come so easy on the final



SOME JOY FOR THE HOME SIDE: Bangladesh players celebrate the dismissal of Zimbabwe captain Stuart Carlisle on the fifth and final day of the Chittagong Test yesterday.

SA on top on rainy day

Cricket

AFP, Port Elizabeth

Rain seemed India's most likely saviour after a weather-shortened fourth day of the second Test against South Africa at St George's Park Monday.

India, set to make 395 to win, were 28 for one when bad light caused the third and final stoppage of a day during which only 25 overs were bowled because of rain and bad light. Further showers were expected on the final day Tuesday.

Indian opening batsman Shiv Das was caught behind off Shaun Pollock in the first over of the final

innings but Deep Dasgupta and Rahul Dravid survived 17 testing overs before play was called off.

South Africa declared after advancing their total by 22 runs in seven overs during the only play that was possible between the scheduled start and the afternoon tea break.

The bad weather meant that Jacques Kallis was denied the chance to score his 10th Test century and his first against India. Scoring only five more runs Monday, he finished unbeaten on 89.

Pollock batted aggressively to take his score to 55 not out before the declaration.

Rain started falling soon after the players went on the field during the afternoon but the South Africans decided to carry on batting until the

rain became heavy and the umpires stopped play.

The weather eliminated any chance of India's winning. They will face a maximum of 105 overs if the weather clears Tuesday but the chances of a full day's play seemed remote.

Only twice before have teams successfully chased more than the 395 needed to win. The highest winning fourth innings in a Test match was 406 for four by India against the West Indies at Port-of-Spain in 1975/76.

India seemed in for a torrid time when Pollock made the fifth ball of the innings kick at Das, who tried to withdraw his bat but top-edged the ball to wicketkeeper Mark Boucher.

SEE PAGE 15



MEN-OF-THE-MATCHES: Travis Friend (L) and Grant Flower pose with their cheques and crests after the second Test in Chittagong yesterday. Flower won the award for his exploits in the second Test while Friend was rewarded for his heroics in the Dhaka Test.