



## Did U Know?

Rookies (or, players in their first year) are named after the rook in chess. Rooks generally are the last pieces to be moved into action.



### SET Max

Sri Lanka vs Zimbabwe

First Test, Day One

Live at 9.30 am

### ESPN

Sportscentre Hindi

Sport News

6:30 am

Cricket Programming

Super Selector

7:00 am

English Premier Football League

Chelsea vs Arsenal

8:00 am

&

Man United vs Everton

10:00 am

Cricket Magazine

India vs Sri Lanka

Singer-Akai Nidahas Trophy '98

Final

Highlights at 2:30 pm

Serie A

Bologna vs Lazio

5:30 pm

World Cup Soccer Mix

9:00 pm

### STAR Sports

South Africa vs Australia

Second Test, Day Two

Live at 5:57 am

Sportsline Today

Sport News

1:00 pm

English Premier Football League

Chelsea vs Arsenal

1:30 pm

Sportsline Tonight

Sport News

Live at 8:00 pm

Futbol Mundial

9:00 pm



### Luiz Felipe Scolari

(Brazil football coach)  
"In my opinion, a football team, including a national team, has to be a big family. Everybody has to get on with everybody else."

## Star WHIZZ KID COMPETITION 163

Tick the Correct Answers Post to

The Daily Star

Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm

Jan 4, 2002 and draw shortly afterwards

- Who became FIFA's World Player of the Year?  
Beckham Figo Raul
- Which team scored the lowest one-day international total?  
Bangladesh Zimbabwe West Indies
- How many wickets did Chaminda Vaas take in a one-day match to set a new world record?  
Seven Eight Nine
- In how many Test did Anil Kumble take 300 wickets?  
88 6676
- Who won the Sri Lanka tri-series?  
West Indies Sri Lanka Zimbabwe

Name .....

Class..... Roll No.....

School Address .....

Phone: (If any) .....



PHOTO: STAR

Footballers' preparations for the upcoming SAFF Championship at the BKSP are going on at full pace as national coach George Kottan gives some tips to his charges on Wednesday.

## Mehrab, Halim excel



OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Discarded national opener Mehrab Hossain and experienced Halim Shah scored half centuries as Dhaka produced a decent total on the first day of the four-day match of the Ispahani Third National League against Chittagong at MA Aziz Stadium yesterday.

Mehrab scored a dazzling 60 and Halim remained undefeated on 57 as the visitors finished the day on 256 for seven after the home captain Akram Khan won the toss and decided to field first.

It was a commendable start for an under strength Dhaka team, which missed most of their key players because of Test duties in New Zealand.

Mehrab gave his side a confident start with some exciting stroke play. The right-hander, left out of the national team reportedly on disciplinary ground other than his performance, struck eleven boundaries in his 84-ball knock.

But his opening partner Shahriar was a disappointment. Returned to action after a long lay-off, the discarded national opener scored only two before being caught out off young pacer Tariq Aziz. Shahriar lost in the wilderness since opening the Bangladesh innings in the inaugural Test against India last year.

Desperately looking for a national call, Sajjad Ahmed also failed in his first essay. He made only

four. Skipper Naimur Rahman began on a promising note but lost his composure in twenties.

Halim however led the recovery operation after Dhaka were reduced to 5/123. Considered as a cricketer with limited stroke play, the right-hander put on 40 runs for the sixth wicket with wicketkeeper Sajjad Kadir and added vital 74 runs for the seventh wicket with Neeyamur Rashid.

Halim struck seven boundaries in his 170-ball vigili at the crease. He will resume the innings with leg-break bowler Mosaddek Hossain

today. Tariq was the pick of the home bowlers with 3/53. Another young player Ahsanullah Hasan, who played for Barisal last year, also captured three wickets for 68 runs. The left-arm spinner also dismissed Mehrab.

Former national right-arm pacer Safiuddin Ahmed bowled without success while off-spinner Sabir Kahn picked up the other wicket fell on the day.

At close of play, Chittagong skipper Akram Khan told the pressmen that his decision to field first

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PHOTO: STAR

Managing director of Ispahani Tea Mirza Salman Ispahani (2nd from R) inaugurating the Ispahani Mirzapur Tea Third National Cricket League at the MA Aziz Stadium on Wednesday.

## Schools cricket begins Jan 15

SPORTS REPORTER

The qualifying round of the Standard Chartered 20th National Schools Cricket Championship for Dhaka metropolitan area will begin in the capital from January 15.

Schools wanting to take part, have been asked to collect entry forms from the Bangladesh Cricket Board's (BCB) Bangabandhu National Stadium office by January 5 and submit them by January 10.

## V-Day kabadi final today

BSS, Dhaka

Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) moved into the final of the Victory Day kabadi tournament beating Bangladesh Police 36-13 with two losses at the kabaddi ground here yesterday.

They will take on Bangladesh Army in the final today.

Army reached the final defeating Maniknagar Sporting Club on Tuesday.

Secretary General of Bangladesh Olympic Association (BOA) Zafar Imam will attend the final as chief guest.

## Mark the 3rd centurion!

REUTERS, Melbourne



Australia batsman Mark Waugh, 36, played his 100th consecutive Test on Wednesday in the second Test against South Africa, becoming only the third player to achieve the feat.

**MOST CONSECUTIVE TESTS**

Allan Border (Australia)	153
Sunil Gavaskar (India)	106
Mark Waugh (Australia)	100
Gundappa Viswanath (India)	87
Garfield Sobers (West Indies)	85

## Aussie war-plan in press again

REUTERS, Melbourne

Australia's team plan for the second Test against South Africa starting in Melbourne was published in Wednesday's newspapers in Australia after it was placed under the wrong hotel door.

The leaked part of the Test memo related to Australia's plans to counter fast bowler Allan Donald, who is battling a foot injury but is expected to be named in South Africa's team on Wednesday morning.

"It is the third time Australia's team hierarchy has been embarrassed by such leaks following incidents on tours in New Zealand last year and England five months ago," The Australian newspaper said.

"In revelations that are hardly earth-shattering, Australia's batsmen have been advised to wear down the veteran pacer (Allan Donald) and be prepared to pick him off because he tends to over-attack."

## Brittle B'desh batting



AFF, Wellington

New Zealand had Bangladesh under control at stumps on the first day of the second cricket Test here Wednesday.

New Zealand easily won the first Test and with the toss put Bangladesh into bat, bowling them all out for 132, with only Aminul Islam putting up any resistance with 42. Chris Cairns, back from a long injury break, took three for 24.

New Zealand openers Mark Richardson (38) and Matthew Horne (30) made a solid start to end the day on 72 for no wicket, 60 behind the Bangladesh total.

It was a relatively dull affair in front of 6,000 sun-drenched Basin Reserve onlookers, most taking a restful Boxing Day with little action to cause much excitement.

New Zealand, long the Test cricket bunny, is dutifully playing the tourists who show little sign at this stage of bothering the home side much.

Despite its status as New Zealand cricket's flagship day of Test cricket, mismatched opponents made for a disappointing spectacle.

Last year's first day was also a let-down as New Zealand crawled to 190 for four at stumps against Zimbabwe, although the previous two tests provided memorable first days against the West Indies and India.

Wednesday, New Zealand captain Stephen Fleming put Bangladesh in to bat on a dry pitch with an uneven spread of grass after being covered for much of the past week.

Bangladesh, though, were never comfortable against an accurate, patient attack which took 64 overs to finish the innings just after the tea break.

While they lasted longer than their previous two efforts in the innings loss in Hamilton last week, Bangladesh scored at little more

than two runs per over as New Zealand bowlers -- led by spearheads Chris Cairns and Daniel Vettori -- strangled the run rate.

The Bangladeshi batsmen's liking for sparring at the ball outside off stump was again shown up, with six batsmen perishing to catches behind the wicket.

Lou Vincent snapped up two of them -- one a brilliant diving effort in the gully -- and added a smart piece of work to run out a stranded Sanwar Hossain.

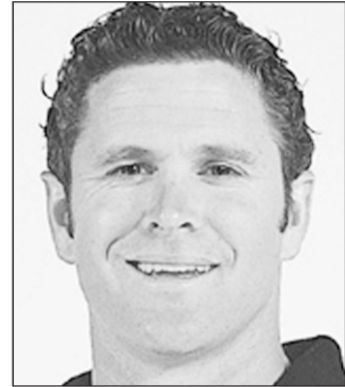
New Zealand bowlers improved again on their first-Test efforts in

second Test. He and Shane Bond had their chance in the first session to bowl downwind with Cairns resting, but couldn't break through.

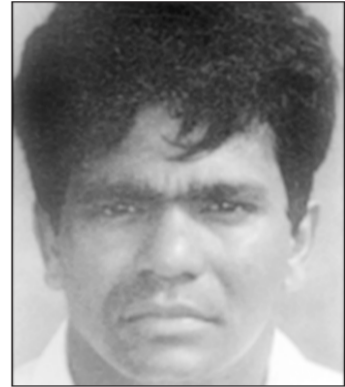
Vettori bowled unchanged for 25 overs into the stiff northerly wind and had more than one confident appeal rejected by Bowden.

He ended with two for 57, in his 36th Test, to draw level with Ewen Chatfield on 123 Test wickets and fifth on the New Zealand all-time list.

The only ignominy for Vettori was being slammed for six over mid-wicket by No. 11 Mashrafe-



CHRIS CAIRNS...3 for 24



AMINUL ISLAM...42

Hamilton, with Cairns taking three for 24 off 15 consistent overs to take his Test wicket tally to 192.

He had a confident caught-behind appeal turned down by Australian umpire Daryl Harper off the first ball of the day to Javed Omar.

Cairns quickly removed Omar and first Test stand-out Habibul Bashar, but Bangladesh recovered to 60 for three at lunch.

Their only saviour was No. 4 Aminul who batted from the third to the 47th over for 42, although he survived a confident bat-pad catch appeal off Vettori on 27 which was turned down by umpire Brent Bowden.

When Aminul departed with the score at 92 for five it was all over, with the recalled Chris Drum chiming in with two late wickets in his

bin-Mortuza. With the pitch offering little, Richardson and Home were largely untroubled in reply for the home team.

Home was deceived by left-armed Monjurul Islam with the total on 19 and edged the ball to second slip Khaled Mahmud, who spilled a comfortable chance.

It was cruel luck for Monjurul, who has been the best Bangladesh bowler on tour but who pulled up lame in Hamilton with an injured hamstring.

**SCOREBOARD**  
Scoreboard at the end of the first day of the second Test between Bangladesh and New Zealand on Wednesday:

**BANGLADESH:** first innings 0  
Omar c Vincent b Cairns 0

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PHOTO: STAR

A band of stick-wielders who joined Abahani on the first day of the four-day inter-club hockey players' transfers on Wednesday.

## Ramij back at Abahani



SPORTS REPORTER

Success-starved Abahani Kirra Chakra managed to woo their former winger Sheikh Ramijuddin from arch-rivals Mohammedan Sporting Club on Wednesday.

On day one of the four-day long inter-club hockey players' transfers, only 13 players changed their allegiance.

Ramij, the national right-winger, spent just one season with the black and whites, winners of the Premier Division League for last four seasons in a row.

Mohammedan also had to let Shaimim Reza leave for the Dhanmondi outfit which in addition have captured a few emerging under-18 players namely Ashrafur Islam Shishu, Towhid Hossain Tuhiin, Khushbu and Russuluddin Bachchu respectively.

Abahani, for all their troubles, however kept faith in their national goalkeeper Russell Khan Bappy.

While it was a busy day for the sky blues, the Motijheel club which has made winning the title almost a habit, passed a quiet day.

They did secure the services of goalkeeper Shakil from Azad Sporting Club.

Talking to The Daily Star Sport former national player and Mohammedan's hockey secretary Sajad Adel, said that they had just opened negotiations with prospective players.

"We are still in talks with the players about terms and conditions. Hopefully, we will be active in the transfer market tomorrow," he said adding that they would also form a strong team capable of retaining the title.

Surprisingly, Usha Kirra Chakra,

hockey's traditional third force, is not so keen on organising a powerful squad these days.

Their task has been perhaps made complicated by the absence of the club's general secretary

**Following 13 players took part in the transfer on the first day:**

PLAYER	FROM	TO
Tayeb Reza	Usha KC	Sonali Bank
Abdur Rahman	Victoria SC	Sonali Bank
Mozammel Haq	Victoria SC	S Bima
Shaimim Reza	MSC	AKC
Sheikh Ramijuddin	MSC	AKC
Ashrafur Islam Shishu	Azad SC	AKC
Abdul Haq Khushbu	Azad SC	AKC
Mohammad Faruk	MSC	AKC
Intiaz Piplu	Usha KC	AKC
Towhidur Rahman Tuhiin	Azad SC	AKC
Russuluddin Bachchu	Azad SC	AKC
Mahbubullah Shakil	Azad SC	MSC
Labu Zoarder	Wanderers	S Bima

## Anwar not coming



REUTERS, Karachi

Pakistan's prolific opening batsman Saeed Anwar has been ruled out of a tour of Bangladesh starting next week after suffering a wrist injury.

"He has been advised (to take) two to three months rest by doctors who have diagnosed a stress fracture in his wrist," Pakistan cricket board spokesman Khalid Butt said from Lahore.

Anwar suffered the injury in a tournament in Sharjah in November. Doctors in Abu Dhabi put his injured wrist in plaster but during a training camp in Lahore for the Bangladesh tour he again complained of wrist problems.

"It is bitterly disappointing to suffer this injury at this stage, with a

lot of cricket coming up," Anwar told this news agency.

He will not only miss the

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SAEED ANWAR