



Did U Know?

British athlete Linford Christie conquered the 100-meter dash in 1992 making him the oldest man by 4 years to ever win this event. He was 32 years old when he took the gold. He capped that victory with the world championship in the 100-metre sprint the following year.



What to WATCH

- ESPN**
West Ham v Leeds United
English Premiership
Repeat at 6:30 pm
Sportscenter Hindi
Sports News
Live at 8:30 pm
World Cup Mix
Football Magazine
9:00 pm
English Premiership
Highlights at 9:30 pm
Super Selector
Cricket Programming
December Winners
10:30 pm
Man United v Newcastle
English Premiership
Repeat at 12:00 am (Friday)
- STAR Sports**
Australia v South Africa
Third Test, Day Two
Live from 6:00 am
Sportsline Today
Sports News
1:00 pm
Australia v South Africa
Third Test, Day Two
Repeat at 4:00 pm
Highlights at 11:00 pm
Sportsline Tonight
Sports News
Live at 8:00 pm

Star WHIZZ KID COMPETITION 163

Tick the Correct Answers Post to The Daily Star
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Jan 4, 2002 and draw shortly afterwards

- Who became FIFA's World Player of the Year?
Beckham Figó 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?
85 6676
- Who won the Sri Lanka tri-series?
West Indies Sri Lanka Zimbabwe

Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (If any)

TALK TURKEY



Shane Warne
(Master Australian leg-spinner)
"It really has been a wonderful journey. There's been some great times and some bad times...but I wouldn't have changed a thing. When I look back over the 10 years since my first game in Sydney, obviously a lot has happened since then."
On the eve of the current match, in which he is celebrating the 10th anniversary of his Test debut, against South Africa.



Pakistan captain Waqar Younis listens to a query from a reporter during a press conference at the Sheraton Hotel on Wednesday. Coach Mudassar Nazar (R) and manager Yawar Saeed were also present.

'Nothing less than clinical'

SPORTS REPORTER
The Pakistan cricket team announced on Wednesday that anything less than a clean sweep would be disappointing in their first series against Bangladesh.
Coach Mudassar Nazar made the declaration after his side flew into Dhaka to play two Tests and three one-day internationals for the Coca-Cola Series.
"I actually want the tour to be a clinical job even if Bangladesh have made a positive step towards becoming a Test-playing country. It will be hard but anything less than victory in both Tests and one-dayers would be disappointing for us," said the former Pakistan opener during a press briefing.
Pakistan captain Waqar Younis, on the other hand, said that he was looking forward to getting back into action after nearly three months.
The last Test Pakistan played was against Bangladesh in the Asian Test Championship at Multan in October.
But Waqar was later disappointed to learn that West Indies would not be coming in February to

play in a Test series due to security fears. Earlier, New Zealand postponed their Pakistan tour in October-November last year.
"It is sad. But we are ready to play the West Indies at a neutral venue. Even if it is in Bangladesh we will be more than happy. We are desperate to play cricket," said the 31-year-old paceman.
Pakistan will start their 27-day tour with a three-day match against the Bangladesh A team at the BKSP ground in Savar on January 5.
The first Test gets underway at the Bangabandhu National Stadium on January 9. The second Test is in Chittagong on January 16. They will also play the first one-dayer at the port city on January 22.
The visitors then return to Dhaka to play the next two one-day internationals at the BNS under lights on January 24 and 25.
Mudassar is making his second trip to Dhaka in a coaching capacity since his brief association with Bangladesh way back in 1984. He still has fond memories of that visit and can recall a few names that he coached then.
"Our mission is to make more friends here. But on the field we want to play as hard as possible," said



Bangladesh A cricket coach Dipu Rai Chowdhury (2nd from R) giving some tips to his charges during a practice session at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday. Bangladesh A face Pakistan in a three-day match at the BKSP starting on January 5.

WI won't go to Pakistan

Neutral Dhaka may hold the series

Cricket
REUTERS/UNB, undated
West Indies have pulled out of next month's scheduled tour of Pakistan but are prepared to play the series at a neutral venue, the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) said on Tuesday.
West Indies cricket chiefs are not willing to send their players on tour amid escalating tensions on the border between Pakistan and India, a PCB spokesman told Reuters from Lahore.
"I can confirm we have received such a letter from the West Indies Cricket Board (WICB) and we are looking at it," the spokesman said.
"We will give our response in due course of time after carefully reviewing the situation now."
West Indies are the third international team to refuse to tour Pakistan since the September 11 attacks on New York and Washington following New Zealand and Sri Lanka.
WICB president Wes Hall has asked his Pakistan counterparts at

shown interest to hold that series as a neutral venue.
However, Pakistan captain Waqar Younis said that his team was yet to be informed about the matter. "We are ready to play the West Indies anywhere in the world if they don't want to come to Pakistan."
The cancellation of tours since September 11, and the ensuing military action in neighbouring Afghanistan, has cost the PCB estimated earnings from television and advertising revenues of 10 million dollars.
Pakistan have played just one Test match since July.
After India had pulled out of the Asian Test Championship match, scheduled for Lahore in September, on political grounds, New Zealand postponed their tour in September-October and then Sri Lanka also called off a hurriedly arranged one-day series in Pakistan because of security concerns.
The WICB, while accepting the itinerary for the tour sent by Pakistan in December, made it clear it had concerns over playing in Pakistan.

Nat'l cricketers back home

SPORTS REPORTER
The Bangladesh cricket team returned home on Tuesday night after suffering a 2-0 whitewash against New Zealand last month.
The Test babes suffered huge innings defeats in the Hamilton and Wellington Tests. Both matches ended in less than three days.
Besides, Khaled Mashud's men went down to Auckland by the same margin in their only proper four-day practice match.
All fifteen players have been instructed to report to coach Trevor Chappell at 1 pm on January 6.
However, cricketers residing in Dhaka, have been requested to join a reception hosted by the Pakistan High Commission this evening.
Meanwhile, the selectors have decided to name the 14-member Bangladesh squad Coca-Cola Series against Pakistan on January 7 at the end of the three-day match between the A team and the visitors at the BKSP.
The team is scheduled to check into their hotel on January 8, a day before the first Test starts at the Bangabandhu National Stadium.

Mazharul to Dhaka's rescue

SPORTS REPORTER
A superb century under pressure from Mazharul Haq and solid support from Halim Shah, salvaged Dhaka from a precarious position on the first day of their four-day Ispahani National Cricket League match against Barisal on Wednesday.
Dhaka, who won their opening fixture against Chittagong, were in deep trouble after skipper Naimur Rahman won the toss and elected to bat at the Barisal Stadium.
The visitors slumped to 4/51 before Mazharul and Halim Shah came to the rescue, putting on 151 runs for the undefeated fifth wicket.
Young Mazharul led the recovery operation with a brilliant 100 off 194 balls. Halim kept him company with a defiant 55 off 232 balls.
The effort of the duo saw Dhaka finish the day with a respectable 220 without further damage.
Mazharul's ton earned him the distinction of becoming the first player to score a hundred in this year's competition.
Barisal's opening bowler Sayem, who rocked Dhaka in the morning, was the home team's most successful bowler and ended the day with two for 38.

Wickets fall in Sylhet

SPORTS REPORTER
Fourteen wickets tumbled at the Sylhet Stadium on the first day of the four-day Ispahani Mirzapur Tea National Cricket League match between Sylhet and Khulna on Wednesday.
Electing to bat, the home side were shot out for 132 in 65.1 overs. Khulna's spin trio Sohail Islam, Jamaluddin and Manzarul Islam were the chief destroyers.
Sohail and Jamal shared eight wickets while Manzarul picked up the rest. Sylhet captain Syed Parvez top scored with 36.
At stumps, the visitors reached 56 for four.

England will tour India

AFP, London
England cricket chief Tim Lamb has said that England's one-day tour of India will go ahead despite the border tensions between India and Pakistan.
The England team is due to fly out next week and are looking to build on the form that saw them emerge with considerable credit from their pre-Christmas India Test tour despite a 1-0 series defeat.
That tour had originally been in doubt because of the conflict in Afghanistan and since then relations between sub-continent neighbours India and Pakistan have taken another turn for the worse following the attack on the Indian parliament.
Lamb told BBC Radio 4's Today programme: "We have taken advice from people at both the Foreign Office and the British High Commissioner in India, and whilst they are obviously concerned about the escalation of the situation, they say there is no reason why the tour should not proceed."
"We will monitor the situation closely and I will be speaking to my contact at the High Commission later this week."
"If the situation deteriorates we may have to make a decision but at the moment there is no reason why the tour should not go ahead."

Wasim eyeing WC swan-song

Cricket
HASAN MASOOD
Cricket is going to miss one of its leading celebrities badly as Pakistan's Wasim Akram is set to wave his bye to international cricket after the next year's World Cup in South Africa.
Arguably the best left-arm fast bowler the world cricket has ever produced, Wasim spends more time than ever to keep himself fit so that he can bow out of the game gracefully after the 2003 meet.
The 36-year-old prolific all-rounder stands out alone with more than 400 wickets in both forms of the game and with two hatricks each in Tests and one-day internationals.
"But I would not leave cricket. I wish to serve this game in any capacity for Pakistan after my retirement," said the former Pakistan captain to reporters at the VIP lounge of Zia International Airport yesterday.
Wasim, whose one Test hatrick was recorded three years back at the Bangabandhu National Stadium in the inaugural Asian Test Championship final against Sri Lanka, wishes to entertain the Bangladesh crowd with yet another hatrick this time.
"It's my second home ground. I always have considered it (like that). I know what they want from me and I would definitely try to perform according to their desires," said Wasim, who has 414 Test and 446 ODI wickets in a career that spans over 17 years.
Wasim, who played club cricket for Abahani a few years back, is also a keen follower of Bangladesh cricket.
"I think you should give them some time. They are playing cricket

now. They have finished the New Zealand tour although they lost the series. But like I said you have to be patient because your team will take some time to grow up," he said.
"The talent is immense here. The interest is so much here that Bangladesh cricket is bound to improve."
"I have been following their game like I said everybody has to be patient. They will improve— just you have to back them up. You can't expect them to do well suddenly, straight away."



WASIM AKRAM
"It took Sri Lanka 16 years to be where they are now. So, at least give them ten to twelve years in Test cricket to improve."
Wasim also said it was time both for him and the Pakistan team to play as many Test matches as possible after three-month's lay-off in cricket since America launched its war against neighbouring Afghanistan.
"We need to play cricket. We did not play cricket for about 2 to 3 months as a whole team. So, I think it would be good practice for us as

well as for Bangladesh to learn...to play against one of the top sides in the world."
When asked whether the recent world situation was ruining Pakistan cricket after New Zealand cancelled their trip to Pakistan in November and West Indies also showed their reluctance to go over there later this month, Wasim said: "Yes, it is. Because, if you do not play international cricket at any level your performance will go down obviously."
"But again Pakistan Cricket Board is trying to host the series against West Indies at a neutral venue if they don't want to come to Pakistan. We have home here in Bangladesh. We might play here against West Indies, you never know. Either here or in Sharjah."
"I think at least over here they have lot more people watching our cricket than in Pakistan. There are lots of noises. They love the game here."
Wasim also expressed his disappointment that opener Saeed Anwar had to rule himself out of the Coca-Cola series with a hairline fracture on his left hand.
"It's very unfortunate because he is one of the best players in the world. Hopefully, he will recover soon and come back in the team."
PCB chairman General Tauqir Zia recently said that the dashing left-hander was losing interest in the game and getting more involved in religious affairs.
"I don't want to comment on that because it is somebody's personal choice. So, I can't say anything on whatever he wants. If he wants to be religious... fair enough... that's good enough. You can do what ever you want to do."

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Minhazul, Ahsanullah carry Ctg

ISPAHANI MIRZAPUR TEA 3rd National Cricket League
SPORTS REPORTER
Half centuries from veteran Minhazul Abedin and Ahsanullah Hasan propelled Chittagong to a commanding position on the opening day of their four-day Ispahani National Cricket League match against Rajshahi at the Comilla Stadium on Wednesday.
Chittagong were in trouble when they lost seven wickets with just 213 on the scoreboard. But Minhazul scored a fine 85 off 140 balls and left-arm spinner Ahsanullah showed his batting talent by notching up an unbeaten 58 as the home side closed on a huge 303 for eight at stumps on the first day.
Minhazul, who is leading the port city team in the absence of Akram Khan, laid the foundation with young opener Faisal.
The experienced right-hander hit eleven boundaries in his 161-minute vigil at the crease. Faisal

hammered a run-a-ball 43 that included seven fours and a six.
But Chittagong's most productive phase came when Ahsanullah came to bat at number nine with all their main batsmen back in the pavilion.
The young left-arm spinner put on a vital 68 runs for the eighth wicket with Minhazul. He then took the score past the 300-mark, adding 22 runs for the ninth wicket with Debarato.
Ahsan struck half a dozen fours and two sixes in his 118 minute undefeated stay.
Chittagong is playing their second match in the six-team competition. They had earlier lost their opening four-day game against Dhaka by 24 runs.
Chittagong could have had a run feast had not Mustadir Litu intervened with a five-wicket burst to contain them somewhat.
Mustadir, Rajshahi's seasoned campaigner, gave the home team most trouble and returned with very respectable figures of five for 83 from 28 overs with his left-arm spinners.

SCOREBOARD
Scoreboard on the first day of the Ispahani Third National Cricket League match between Chittagong and Rajshahi at Comilla Stadium on Wednesday.

CHITTAGONG: First innings
Anis hit wicket b Mustadir 20
Faisal c Aminul jr. b Mustadir 43
Azam Mustakim Ripon 18
Minhazul b Mustadir 85
Masum c Mustadir b Mostakim 11
Sabbir b Mustadir 20
Sumon c Kalim b Mustadir 0
Mortuza lbw b Sumon 9
Ashnaullah not out 58
Debarato not out 7
Extra: (b-6, lb-9, nb-16, w-1) 32
Total: (For 8 wickets in 90 overs) 303

Fall of wickets: 1/70, 2/91, 3/126, 4/176, 5/208, 6/208, 7/213, 8/281

BOWLER:

	O	M	R	W
Aminul jr.	11	1	44	0
Sumon	12	2	37	2
Ripon	20	6	53	1
Mustadir	28	10	83	5
Mostakim	12	0	39	1
Nayan	7	0	24	0

Double duty!

Cricket
SPORTS REPORTER
Three Pakistan cricketers Imzamam-ul Haq, Yousuf Youhana and Saqlain Mushtaq -- will have to take care of their families apart from playing on their tour of Bangladesh.
Pakistan's batting backbone Imzamam brought his wife and son Iptesam. The three-year-

old Imzamam junior occupied his father's lap in his journey from airport to hotel in the team bus.
Off-spinner Saqlain and second-in-command of Pakistan batting Youhana, on the other hand, could take a little break from the family responsibility. Saqlain's daughter Malayka and Youhana's baby Anika slept out the short journey in their mother's laps.
However, the beginning of

Imzamam and Youhana in Dhaka was not as good as they would have expected.
The two had trouble with their hotel rooms. With a grim face, they came down to the reception and demanded their rooms be changed.
It was learnt that the two rooms were not properly cleaned up and that they found bad odour in their rooms. Both were however promptly given fresh rooms.



THE FEW FAMILY MEN: The Mushtaq (L), the Haqs (top, R) and the Youhanas.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN