



Did U Know?

The archery team of Barcelona lit up the cauldron with a flaming arrow in the Olympic Games in 1992.



What to WATCH

ESPN

English Premier Football League
Blackburn Rovers vs Ipswich Town
3:00 pm
Serie A
Highlights at 6:30 pm
Football Focus
7:30 pm

Sportscentre Hindi

Sport News
Live at 8:30 pm
English Premier Football League
Aston Villa vs Southampton
9:30 pm

STAR Sports

Sportsline Today
Sport News
7:30 am
Harsha Online
Cricket Talk Show
8:30 am
Cricket Programming
Super Selector
9:30 am
Trans World Sport
Int'l Sports News
10:30 am

English Premier Football League
Chelsea vs Southampton
1:00 pm
Gillette World Sports Special
Int'l Sports News
4:30 pm

Sportsline Tonight

Sport News
Live at 8:00 pm
Australia Tri Series
Pakistan vs Australia
First ODI
Highlights at 8:30 pm
&
Pakistan vs India
Second ODI
Highlights at 9:30 pm



Star WHIZZ KID COMPETITION 164

Tick the Correct Answers Post to
The Daily Star
Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm
Jan 18, 2002 and draw
shortly afterwards

1. What was Jacques Kallis' score in the MCG Test?			
	100	90	99
2. Michael Owen scored his 100th club goal against			
	Bolton	Fulham	Chelsea
3. Which football club won the Argentine Championship?			
	Racing	Boca	River
4. How many double century stand do Hayden and Langer have?			
		5	43
5. How many batsmen have played in 100 consecutive Tests?			
	3	4	5

Name

Class. Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (If any)



TALK TURKEY



Steve Waugh
(Australian cricket captain)
"I was always confident in my ability to do the job it obviously helps when you've got match-winners in the side but there has been a lot of hard work put in to get to this satge." On Australia's strength.



Pakistan opener Shadab Kabir follows through on a square-cut during the third day's play of the three-day tour match against Bangladesh A at the BSKP yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

Pakistan practise well

Tour opener ended in a draw



SPORTS REPORTER

Pakistan took their three-day match against Bangladesh A for batting practice as their tour opener ended in a dull draw at the BSKP ground in Savar yesterday.

Resuming the third and final day on 57 for no loss, the visitors, brought their lower-order up for batting practice in the second innings and kept the occupation of the crease till the tea break. They declared at 242 for six, an overall lead of 344 runs against Akram Khan's team, who were out for 210

in the first innings. "It was a good practice for us. We batted all right and bowled well. So we are now ready for the Test match," said Pakistan captain Waqar Younis after the match.

"As I said this three-day match was for practice and not to win or lose. We were looking for practice and to give everyone a bit of bat and bowl also. That's why we lingered on a little bit."

The first Test starts at the Bangabandhu National Stadium on Wednesday.

In reply to the impossible target, the home side were on 53 for three in 19 overs before umpires called off the match 15 minutes before the scheduled time.

Pakistan lost their first wicket in the sixth over of the day when Taufeeq Omar was trapped leg before by Chittagong seamer Tareq Aziz Khan on 36.

One-down Rashid Latif retired on 29 after pulling his hamstring. Then came the highest 79-run third wicket partnership between opener Shadab Kabir and all-rounder Abdur Razzak.

Left-arm spinner Enamul Hoque broke the stand bowling Razzak out for 41. Left-hander Shadab lost his cool at the nervous nineties and returned to the pavilion offering a simple catch to substitute fielder Mohammad Alamgir. Shadab

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PHOTO: STAR

Pakistan captain Waqar Younis is out, lbw to Enamul Hoque, yet he finds something funny about it.

World Youth Cup

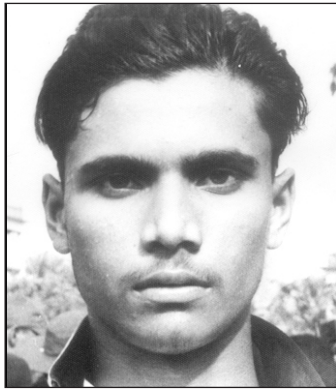
Mash, Ash included



SPORTS REPORTER

Mashrafe-bin-Mortuza and Test batsman Mohammad Ashraful have been included in the Bangladesh team for the World Youth Cup in New Zealand starting on January 19.

The Bangladesh Cricket Board



MASHRAFEE-BIN-MORTUZA

earlier named Nafees Iqbal as skipper of the 14-member squad.

The selectors took a gamble on Mashrafe despite the fact the injured 19-year-old right-arm tear-away will not be playing in the first Test against Pakistan starting tomorrow.

Mashrafe tore a back muscle while on tour in New Zealand last month.

"I know Mashrafe is injured but depending on how quickly he recovers, he could travel later on. Our first match is on January 20," said chief age-group selector Tanjeeb Ahsan Saad at the BKSP yesterday afternoon.

"Although the team is scheduled to leave on January 11th, we will still wait until the last minute," he added.

The team includes three additional pacers in Talha Zubayer, Shafaq Al-Zabir and Ashique Rahman.

All-rounders Wasselluddin and Aftab Ahmed are capable of filling the seamers' role. Ali Arman and Murad Khan will be in charge of the spin department.

The team's main batsmen are Gazi Salauddin, Shariful Islam, Nafees, Shafiu Alam, Ashrafur respectively.

Four players have been kept on stand-by. They are Sheikh Russell, Kamrul Islam, Arif Hossain and Kafi Khan.

Penciled in Group A along with South Africa, India and Canada for the first round of the 16-nation meeting, Bangladesh face the Proteas in their opening match at the Colin Maiden Park in Auckland on January 20.

They will meet Canada on January 22 at the same venue before taking on defending champions India in their last match at the N o r t h

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Mehrab back

Squad for Pak series announced



SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) announced on Monday a 14-man squad for the Coca-Cola Test series against touring Pakistan.

Opening batsman Mehrab Hossain is the only notable inclusion in an otherwise predictable 14 for the series starting on January 9. The right-hander was recalled after scoring an impressive half-century in the three-day match against the visitors that ended at the BKSP yesterday.

24-year-old Mehrab last played for the national team in the Asian Test Championship in August-September last year.

The selectors were forced to drop two players from the team that returned from New Zealand in December.

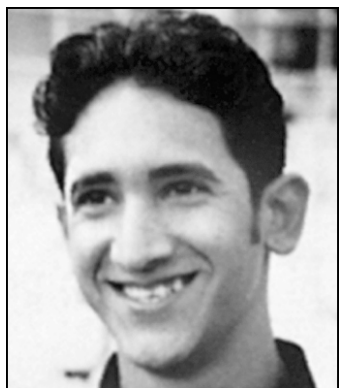
The country's fastest bowler Mashrafe-bin Mortuza was not considered by the selection panel of chief selector Mainul Huq because of an injury.

The 19-year-old from Narail, who had made a sensational start to his international career, is still complaining of back problems that first surfaced during the series against the New Zealand Black Caps.

Batsman Tushar Imran was also omitted to make way for Mehrab. However, the young right-hander may consider himself rather unlucky,

as he did not feature in a single match despite being a part of the tour party. Tushar is the first Bangladeshi to score a double hundred on foreign soil.

One debatable point in the selection must be that of paceman



MEHRAB HOSSAIN

Hasibul Hossain.

The 24-year old's performance has been very disappointing since being recalled in the national set-up during the one-day series against Zimbabwe in November.

The selectors stuck to their traditional pattern of having two pacers backed up by as many spinners.

Hasibul will be the stand-by seamer while the combination of Monjurul Islam and Mohammad

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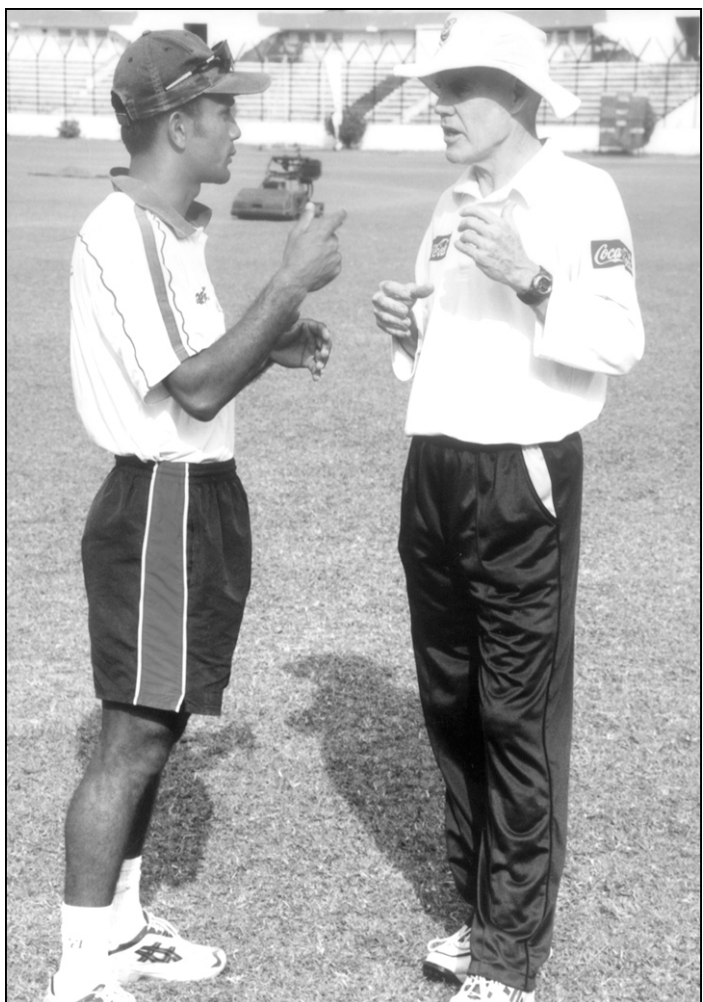


PHOTO: STAR

Bangladesh captain Khaled Mashud (L) and coach Trevor Chappell discuss something during a practice session at the Bangabandhu National Stadium on Monday.

Murali, Buddika do the rest



AFP, Kandy

Muttiah Muralitharan and Charitha Buddika shared eight wickets to help Sri Lanka thrash Zimbabwe by an innings and 94 runs in the second Test for their seventh successive win here on Monday.

The hosts clinched the three-Test series with their second victory against the tourists, having won the first match by a record innings and 166 runs at Colombo.

Zimbabwe were all out for 175 in their second innings after conceding a 269-run lead, giving yet another feeble batting performance against the hosts' disciplined pace-spin combination.

Left-handed Gavin Rennie was the only batsman to offer some resistance with an impressive 68, but received no support from the other end as Zimbabwe lost their second successive Test inside four days.

Seamer Buddika finished with 4-27 in only his third Test, while ace off-spinner Muralitharan grabbed 4-64 to take his match-tally to 13 for a record 10th haul of 10 or more scalps in a Test.

Zimbabwe never looked like avoiding a big defeat despite Rennie's seventh Test half-century in 21 matches as Buddika and Muralitharan kept striking at regular intervals.

The 21-year-old Buddika got two vital wickets in his incisive opening spell to put the tourists under pressure. He trapped Andy Flower (11) leg-before in his second over and then triggered the collapse with the wicket of Rennie.

Rennie, who put on 58 for the

fourth wicket with Andy Flower, was out leg-before just before lunch by a Buddika yorker after smashing 11 fours in his three-hour knock.

Rennie's dismissal as they lost their last six wickets for 41 runs, with Muralitharan taking three.

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PHOTO: INTERNET

Sri Lankan spin master Muttiah Muralitharan (L) is jubilant after rounding off Zimbabwe's second innings on the fourth day of the second Test at Kandy yesterday. Muralitharan was adjudged man-of-the match.

Wasim fully fit

SPORTS REPORTER

Pakistan star pacer Wasim Akram has recovered from his illness and is ready to play in the first Test against Bangladesh, starting from January 9 at the Bangabandhu National Stadium.

The lethal left-arm came down with cold and did not play in the three-day match against Bangladesh at BSKP.

The former Pakistan skipper, who has 414 Test wickets under his belt, looked fit as a fiddle at nets at BSKP in the morning yesterday.

"I am now fully all right and ready to play in the first Test," said Wasim to The Daily Star Sport. "I had a sore throat which gave me some trouble for the last few days. But, Inshallah, it's over now."

Meanwhile, vice-captain Inzamamul Haq did not leave the city for Multan Monday after knowing that condition of his father, who suffered a heart-attack on Saturday, has improved in the last 24 hours.

The Pakistan batting backbone had an extra training session with coach Mudassar Nazar at nets on Monday when his team was batting against Bangladesh A in the morning.

School cricket

UNB, Sherpur

Sherpur Govt Victoria Academy made a good start in the 20th National School Cricket tournament beating Astamitala Pre-Cadet Institution by 51 runs at Shaheed Muktiyoddha Smriti Stadium yesterday.

Victoria Academy batted first and scored 144 runs and later they dismissed the Pre-Cadet Institution for 93 runs.

No decision on Pak-WI series

REUTERS, Karachi

Bangladesh has not yet been confirmed as the neutral venue to host next month's scheduled series between Pakistan and West Indies, the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) has said.

"Let me make it clear that, at this stage, Bangladesh has not been settled as the alternative venue to host the series," a PCB spokesman told Reuters.

"Bangladesh is being considered as one of the alternate third-country venues, but our priority...is for the tour to take place in Pakistan."

West Indies, who initially pulled out of the tour amid escalating tensions on the border between Pakistan and India, said earlier this month they were prepared to play the three-Test series at a neutral venue.

Sharjah, Tangiers in Morocco and Dhaka in Bangladesh have been discussed as possible alternative venues at recent PCB meetings.

Bangladesh Cricket Board director Ashrafur Haq was reported as saying on Saturday that Pakistan had agreed to play the series in Bangladesh.

Ashrafur said Pakistan had decided to play the Tests in Dhaka and the one-day internationals in Sharjah, but that the Bangladesh board had offered to host the whole tour.

West Indies on Tuesday became the third team to refuse to tour Pakistan because of security concerns following the September 11 attacks.

But sources at the PCB insisted at the time they were still hopeful of persuading West Indies to tour.

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Rhodes enthuses Proteas



AFP, Sydney

Jonny Rhodes says he can't be expected to be the catalyst to transform South Africa's struggling fortunes in the triangular one-day cricket series, but he hopes to inject some enthusiasm.

The limited-overs star says he knocked back approaches to resume his Test career, including one which would have had him playing in the final Test against Australia here last week where the Proteas lost by 10 wickets.

Rhodes, who retired from the Test arena in 2000 to spend more time with his family, said the South African public's reaction to the 3-0 Test whitewash had been one of "fright" at Australia's domination and disappointment.

While he felt no guilt about dismissing the Test approaches, he admitted he didn't realise how much it would hurt to watch from afar as the Proteas were drubbed by Australia.

South Africa's most capped one-day player, Rhodes arrived here last Friday for the series with Australia and New Zealand, one of three changes to the Test side overpowered by Australia.

"I hope no-one is expecting me to be the catalyst, because I think at this level you need to motivate yourselves and I think we're a good enough side to do that," Rhodes said Monday.

Renowned as one of the great fielders, he said he would bring a fresh point of view and set of legs to the side.

"I haven't had to endure 140 odd overs in the field over a couple of

Test matches, so hopefully I will be fairly fresh at the age of 32 and a half," Rhodes said.

"But I would like to inject a bit of enthusiasm and hopefully it rubs off on the other guys, and also if you just enjoy the game."

"I think that was slightly lacking. It's not easy when you lose 3-0, there doesn't look like there's much enjoyment out there, so hopefully we can bring that back in because it's a lot easier to play when you're happier on the field."

Rhodes said he had been



JONNY RHODES

approached by team management and captain Shaun Pollock before the tour about playing the Test series and he had also received approaches during the tour and again since arriving in Australia.

"I've made a commitment to my family, I've always professed that's my priority over cricket and I stood by my decision, I don't feel guilty at all," Rhodes said.

"I didn't realise it would hurt so much watching Australia win this

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