



Did U Know?

The NBA's first 7-foot-tall player was Elmore Morgenthaler, who played for Providence in 1946.



BTV & ETV

- Bangladesh vs Pakistan**
Second Test, Day Two
Live at 9:45 am
- ESPN**
Sportscentre Hindi
Sport News
6:30 am
English Premier Football League
Highlights at 7:00 am
New Zealand vs South Africa
Third ODI
Highlights at 8:00 am
New Zealand vs Australia
Fourth ODI
Live at 9:27 am
Cricket Programming
Super Selector
6:00 pm
Sportscentre Hindi
Sport News
Live at 8:30 pm
World Cup Soccer Mix
9:00 pm
Western Union World Football
9:30 pm
- STAR Sports**
Australian Open
Men/Women Second Round
Live at 6:00 am
Sportsline Today
Sport News
12:00 pm
English Premier Football League
Highlights at 1:00 pm
Australian Open
Day Three
Highlights at 7:00 pm
Sportsline Tonight
Sport News
Live at 8:00 pm



Harbhajan Singh
(Indian star spinner)
"The greatest aspect of his bowling is that he doesn't give up at any stage."
About Anil Kumble.

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)			

Roberts yet to respond



SPORTS REPORTER from Chittagong

Bangladesh A team leave the capital one day ahead of the schedule to take part in the Busta Cup, the premier first class event in the West Indies.

The team, led by former national captain Akram Khan, will now depart on January 19 and reach Antigua on the following day via London, Bangladesh Cricket Board director Syed Ashraful Haq said to The Daily Star Sport yesterday.

He said that only 12 players would go in the first phase to face West Indies B in their opening match on January 25 at Saint Kitts in Leeward Island.

Middle-order batsman Tushar Imran and right-arm seamer Tareq Aziz Khan, who are drafted into the senior team to play in the one-day series against Pakistan, will join the A team before their second match against Leeward starting in Antigua

from February 1.

Ashraful also disclosed that Andy Roberts, the former West Indies fast bowler whom BCB is trying to hire as a part-time coach for the seven-week tour, has not yet accepted the Board's revised offer.

A negotiation that has been going on between the two parties for over a week is reported to be in final stage.

"Hopefully, we will get a response very soon because we have offered him a good package for the job," said Ashraful.

Roberts coached Bangladeshi pace bowlers in Dhaka last August.

When asked why Dipu Roy Chowdhury was removed as coach of the A team despite his fine record during the A team's India tour in October-November, Ashraful admitted that he was also surprised with the change. "But since it was the job of the development committee, I don't want to talk about it."

Ashraful, who was not in his best of moods as Bangladesh got out for 148 in just two sessions, also slammed left-arm spinner

Mohammad Rafique for his refusal to tour West Indies with A team.

"Rafique has been misguided. His idea of earning more is not good for cricket. He could have very well ensured his berth in the pay-roll by performing well with the A team."

"Besides, he could have played the Dhaka league after the trip because that will not start before the middle of March at the end of the National League and Eid-ul-Azha vacation."

"So, this trip would actually help him earn some extra money," said Ashraful, adding that he is rather sceptical about Dhaka league this year because the clubs are not interested yet for the meet.

About trainer Gavin Benjafield's latest contract, Ashraful said that it was a good deal for the Board as it will now pay the South African much less than in the past when he worked on yearly basis.

"You see, we don't want to keep him sitting idle for six months when we do not play cricket in the monsoon. That's why we have proposed him to work on tour basis," he said.

Some relief for BFF

SPORTS REPORTER

Despite having the Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) banned recently, FIFA will not bar BFF from collecting a piece of the million dollar 'Goal Project' of the world body.

FIFA slapped ban on BFF on January 11 for failing to restore the elected body of Harun-ur Rashid. But AFC's development officer Monil Fernando in a letter on Tuesday reassured the local football authority that their application for the lucrative project would not be affected in any way by the recent course of events.

The former Sri Lankan football chief wrote that Bangladesh would only receive 400,000 dollars from FIFA provided that its case is approved next month. The BFF submitted a project profile on January 4, seeking one million dollars to construct a seven-storied building adjacent to Arambagh Club.

The AFC official who recently visited Dhaka also wanted to know whether the BFF would be cutting costs or provide the means for the additional funds.

Nat'l eves chess

UNB, Dhaka

The 23rd National Women's Chess Championship begins at the federation chess room today.

SEE PAGE 15



SORRY, SANWAR! Pakistan's Yousuf Youhana (L) and Rashid Latif (R) join Saqlain Mushtaq (2nd, L) in successfully appealing for an lbw decision against Sanwar Hossain of Bangladesh during the first day's play of the Coca-Cola second Test at the MA Aziz Stadium in Chittagong on Wednesday.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

FedEx V-Day basketball

UNB, Dhaka

Bangladesh Rifles earned a massive 137-27 victory over Sobhanbagh Basketball Association in the FedEx Victory Day basketball competition at the Dhanmondi Gymnasium yesterday.

The winners dominated the first half by 63-11 points. Jahangir caged 20 and Z Alam 19 for the winners while Nafiz and Sajib six each for the losers.

In the day's other match, Bangladesh Navy scored 85-39 victory over Saints after leading the first half 38-16. Mizan boxed 15 for the winners while Roger 12 and Theu 8 for the losers.



Bangladesh captain Khaled Mashud follows through on a sweep. Mashud was the highest Bangladesh scorer with 28.

PHOTO: STAR

Tons-up Rajshahi

ISPAHANI MIRZAPORE TEA 3rd National Cricket League

SPORTS REPORTER

Rajshahi thrived on twin tons to post a commanding total against Chittagong on the opening day of their four-day match of the Ispahani National Cricket at the Rajshahi Stadium yesterday.

Opener Rafiqul Islam hammered 109 and Anisur Rahman was not out on 100 as the hosts, sent into bat, finished the day on 268 for four.

Rafiqul struck his first century of the season with the help of 12 boundaries and a six. The right-hander added 167 runs for the third wicket with Anisur after the home side lost two early wickets.

Young Anis also struck a dozen fours and a six to complete his first

hundred in 222 minutes.

Experienced paceman Safiuddin Ahmed captured three wickets for 41 runs for the under-strength visiting side. Five of their regular players including captain Akram Khan are now in the camp for Bangladesh A team's tour of West Indies.

Runaway leaders Dhaka wasted little time to establish their supremacy over Barisal at Faridpur.

The hosts hardly missed their in-form captain Naimur Rahman when they bowled Barisal out for 163 runs and then scored 147 for four at close of the first day's play.

The hero of Dhaka's success on the day was left-arm spinner Mohammed Rafique, who captured seven wickets for 52. The career-best performance in the National League for the former Test cap came only two days after the tweaker turned down a call-up in the Bangladesh A team's tour of West Indies on personal reason.

Opener Imran was the lone visiting batsman who offered some resistance with 50.

At Jessore, Sylhet recovered from a shaky start to put up 221 for 4 at close against hosts Khulna.

Rajin Saleh and Alok Kapali led the recovery operation after the visitors were reduced to 100/4. They produced 121 runs for the undefeated fifth wicket.

Centurion in the previous match, Rajin scored 66 not out while Alok struck an unbeaten 57.

SCORECARDS

Scoreboards on the opening day of the four-day Ispahani National Cricket League matches played at different venues across the country on Wednesday:

Venue: Faridpur	
BARISAL: First innings	
Imran c Bikash b Khokon	50
Shaheen b Rafique	22

SEE PAGE 15

Giles couldn't care less



REUTERS/AFP, Calcutta

England left-arm spinner Ashley Giles said Wednesday he was not worried by criticism over his negative bowling tactics against India in last month's Test series.

Giles and skipper Nasser Hussain were both severely criticised for the run-containing bowling during Tests, with former India skipper Sunil Gavaskar describing the visiting team as "boring".

"I will be very happy if he (Gavaskar) remembers me even for this," said the 29-year-old Warwickshire spinner, expected to play a major role in the one-day series starting here on Saturday.

Giles said he knew he could not bowl a leg-stump line in the one-dayers, but had plans to keep the Indian batsmen silent in the shorter version of the game also.

"I will try to put pressure on the batsmen by keeping a good line and length and bowling dot balls," he said.

Giles often bowled over the stumps and into the 'roughs' outside the leg-stump in the last two drawn Tests at Ahmedabad and Bangalore in a bid to deny Indian batsmen, especially Sachin Tendulkar, scoring opportunities.

England lost the three-Test series 1-0, their lone defeat coming in the opening match at Mohali.

Giles' negative line of attack drove Tendulkar to frustration at Bangalore, where the master batsman stepped out to try a big shot, missed the line and was stumped for the first time in his illustrious career.

The England spinner, however, defended his bowling, saying he did not do anything illegal in Tests.

"Whatever I did was within the rules of the game," said Giles, who returned a career-best 5-67 in the second Test at Ahmedabad.

Giles said he enjoyed taking wickets against Indians whom he considered the best players of spin

on home pitches. "I enjoy playing against every country," he said. "But Indians play spin very well on these pitches. So, when you get wickets against them it gives you great pleasure."

Giles, however, conceded that his team would find it tough beating India at home in one-dayers as they had good spinners in Anil Kumble and Harbhajan Singh.

"We will have to play at our best to beat them," he said. "Kumble has got more than 300 wickets which is a fantastic effort and Harbhajan is

SEE PAGE 15



Pakistan leg-spinner Danish Kaneria (2nd, R) celebrates taking the wicket of Mehrab Hossain.

PHOTO: STAR

StanChart cricket gets underway

SPORTS REPORTER

The Dhaka Metropolitan Zone matches of the Standard Chartered 20th National School Championship saw a sensational start in the city yesterday.

Dhaka Blue Sky won a tie-match at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium by virtue of having better run-rate in the first 30 overs. The statisticians were summoned when Blue Sky, chasing Monipur High School's 199 for eight in the allotted 35 overs, finished at par in a nail-biting finish.

At the PIG ground, Motijheel High School prevailed over Islami Adarsha School by one wicket.

Nazrul powered Dolaipar to a four-wicket victory over Keya Kindergarten at the Dhanmondi Club Ground with an unbeaten 67.

Govt. Laboratory won a lopsided encounter at the Mirpur Outer Stadium. They thrashed MDC Model Institute by eight wickets.

BRIEF SCORES

Dhaka Blue Sky vs Monipur High School

Venue: Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium
MONIPUR: 199 for 8 in 35 overs (Pikashu 56, Pappu 28; Badal 2/45).

BLUE SKY: 199 for 8 in 35 overs (Sumon 56, Arif 40; Tapu 3/29, Pikash 2/33).

Result: Dhaka Blue Sky won by better run-rate in 30 overs.

Motijheel Model vs Islami Adarsha High School

Venue: PIG
ISLAMI ADARSHA HIGH SCHOOL: 141 all out in 32 overs (Tanzir 51; Rony 3/40, Rayhan 2/29).

MOTIJHEEL MODEL: 142 for 9 wickets in 33.5 overs (Ripon 37, Tanvir 20; Tanzirul 4/26, Romel 2/2).

Result: Motijheel Model High School won by 1 wicket.

Dolaipar High School vs Keya Kindergarten

Venue: Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium
KEYA KINDERGARTEN: 178 all out in 34.1 overs (Mokhles 43; Maruf 4/26, Sharif 3/37).

DOLAIPAR HIGH SCHOOL: 179 for 6 wickets in 26.1 overs (Nazrul 67 not out; Shahadat 3/36).

Result: Dolaipar High School won by 4 wickets.

Govt. Laboratory High School vs MDC Model

Venue: Mirpur Outer Stadium
MDC MODEL: 157 all out in 24.5 overs.

GOVT. LABORATORY: 159 for 2 wickets in 23 overs (Sumit 54 not out).

Result: Govt. Laboratory High School won by 8 wickets.

SERIES CHIPS



HASAN MASOOD from Chittagong

The inclusion of opening batsman Al-Shahriar does not seem to have bothered Bangladesh team physiotherapist John Gloster.

The right-hander was passed fit by the Australian physio despite still feeling the effects of a cut on his hand during the first Test in Dhaka.

Al-Shahriar, 23, injured himself while trying to catch Inzamamul Haq on day three of the first Test.

So, observers have now started to question Gloster's credibility. The man in question, who also works for English county club Surrey, had earlier been blamed for aggravating paceman Mashrafeebin-Mortuza's condition.

The 19-year-old speedster from Narail, injured his back while in New Zealand last month.

But even after the injury happened in the first Test, Gloster, who

joined the national team last year, passed the right-arm fast bowler fit for the final Test in Wellington.

Mashrafeebin has been advised to take three weeks complete rest. There is little chance of seeing him in action in the three-match one-day series starting here on January 22.

Does the same fate await Al-Shahriar?

INZY MIDT SKIP ODIs

Inzamamul Haq may not be playing in the one-day series after all. The top Pakistan batsman nearly did not take part in either of the two Tests against Bangladesh.

The sleepy giant from Multan was almost flying home after hearing news of father's illness. Although the senior Haq suffered some heart trouble on Wednesday, he still told his son to concentrate on cricket.

However, Inzamam's wife and son returned to Pakistan before the team left for the port city.

It was learnt from a source in the Pakistan team, that Inzamam would be going back home after the Test.

The cricket lovers here will certainly feel his absence.

CHINESE NIGHT OUT

Accept the gift and ask questions later.

Perhaps that is what the Pakistan cricketers planned to do after enjoying a hearty dinner hosted by Abdur Razzak on Tuesday.

The all-rounder won 1,000 dollars after being named man-of-the-match in the first Test on January 9.

Razzak decided what better way to treat his teammates than to take them all out to a posh restaurant named Silver Spoon in the city centre.

The popular restaurant offers a wide range of Far Eastern dishes -- Chinese, Thai etc.

Even though the visit took the restaurant staff and customers by surprise, nevertheless, the cricket guests were given VIP treatment and returned to their hotel fully satisfied.

BRAVE SHADAB

Sometimes fielding so close to the batsman can be a very painful experience. Just ask Shadab Kabir.

The young Pakistani opener found out how true that statement is when he got struck three times on Wednesday standing at silly mid-off.

The first encounter came when Aminul Islam hit the brave fielder on the upper part of his body. Later,

Bangladesh captain Khaled Mashud's bat targeted his left ankle on two consecutive balls.

And each time Pakistani physio Dr Reaz had to rush on to the pitch with his 'magic spray'.

Although Shadab will still need some painkiller at the night, but his antics denied the home team 12 valuable runs.

Navy cricket COMCHIT

emerge champs

PRESS RELEASE, Ctg

The Commodore Commanding Chittagong (COMCHIT) became champions beating Commodore Commanding BN Flotilla (COMBAN) by two runs in the annual cricket championship of Bangladesh Navy at the Area Sports Complex at New Mooring in Chittagong yesterday.

Batting first, COMCHIT made 117 for 8. The COMBAN were all out for 115.

Sub Lieutenant Rezaul Hassan was declared man-of-the-tournament.

BANGLADESH-PAKISTAN SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at stumps on the first day of the Coca-Cola second Test between Bangladesh and Pakistan at the MA Aziz Stadium in Chittagong on Wednesday:

BANGLADESH: First innings	R	M	B	4	6
Javed Omar c Shadab Kabir b Saqlain Mushtaq	17	119	86	1	0
Al Shahriar c Rashid Latif b Waqar Younis	13	35	25	2	0
Mehrab Hossain b Danish Kaneria	16	102	69	1	0
Habibul Bashar c Shadab Kabir b Saqlain Mushtaq	2	8	7	0	0
Aminul Islam c Yousuf Youhana b Danish Kaneria	25	69	55	2	0
Sanwar Hossain lbw b Saqlain Mushtaq	11	13	12	1	0
Enamul Hoque c Shadab Kabir b Danish Kaneria	0	12	10	0	0
Khaled Mashud c Taufeeq Umar b Saqlain Mushtaq	28	70	60	5	0
Fahim Muntasir c Inzamamul Haq b Danish Kaneria	11	9	2	0	0
Mohammad Sharif st Rashid Latif b Saqlain Mushtaq	0	6	2	0	0
Monjurul Islam not out	4	19	14	1	0
Extras: (b-5, lb-9, nb-9)	23				
Total: (All out in 56.4 overs, 236 minutes)	148				
Fall of wickets: 1-21 (Al Shahriar), 2-57 (Omar), 3-60 (Bashar), 4-65 (Mehrab), 5-84 (Sanwar), 6-85 (Enamul), 7-112 (Aminul), 8-126 (Muntasir), 9-127 (Sharif), 10-148 (Mashud)					

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Waqar Younis	7	2	19	1
Shoaib Akhtar	6	2	15	0
Danish Kaneria	22	6	62	4
Abdur Razzak	5	2	3	0
Saqlain Mushtaq	16.4	3	35	5

PAKISTAN: First innings	R	M	B	4	6
Taufeeq Umar not out	47	127	104	8	0
Shadab Kabir c Khaled Mashud b Mohammad Sharif	4	23	11	10	
Younis Khan not out	47	103	85	8	0
Extras: (nb-1)	1				
Total: (For 1 wicket in					