



## Did U Know?

Today Steve and Mark Waugh of Australia are two of the most prolific batsmen in world cricket. They are also twins. Steve played for Australia long before Mark made it to the team. When Mark finally played for Australia it was Steve who had been dropped to make room for Mark. Ironically, Steve was given the job of informing Mark.



## Talk Turkey



**Wasim Akram**  
(Pakistan all-rounder)  
"Injuries are part and parcel of the game but they can't demoralise"



## What to Watch

- DD Sports**  
India vs Zimbabwe  
Second Test, Day Two  
Live at 10:00 am
- ESPN**  
World Cup Soccer Mix  
11:30 am  
Western Union World Football  
7:00 pm  
**Sportscentre Hindi**  
Sport News  
Live at 8:30 pm
- STAR Sports**  
Sportsline Today  
Sport News  
8:00 am  
English Premier Football  
Newcastle United vs Sunderland  
1:00 pm  
Futbol Mundial  
4:30 pm  
**Sportsline Tonight**  
Sport News  
Live at 8:00 pm  
Football Asia  
9:00 pm  
Australia vs New Zealand  
Second ODI  
Highlights at 9:30 pm  
Sri Lanka Tour of Pakistan  
Sri Lanka vs Pakistan  
Second ODI  
Highlights at 11:00 pm

## Star WHIZZ KID COMPETITION 167

Tick the correct answers, post to  
**The Daily Star**  
Win attractive prizes  
Competition closes at 8 pm  
March 1, 2002 and draw shortly afterwards

- Who won the U-19 cricket World Cup?  
Australia South Africa New Zealand
- Who became African Nations Cup football champions?  
Cameroon Senegal Ghana
- What was the result of the first ever Test series in Sharjah between Pakistan and West Indies?  
2-0-1
- Who clinched the National junior chess title?  
Jamaluddin Sagar
- Who won the Pan-Pacific Open tennis title?  
Selas Kournikova

Class: ..... Roll No. ....  
School Address: .....  
Phone: (If any) .....

## Call to chastise culprits

### U-19 probe body needs more time



SPORTS REPORTER

The latest probe committee of Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) needs at least two-week's time to dig out what led its team to perform disastrously in the under-19 World Cup in New Zealand last month.

Board director Aziz Al-Kaiser, the head of three investigators, Aziz Al-Kaiser said yesterday that his committee requires more time to make a full investigation into the matter.

On Wednesday, Board president Ali Asghar announced at a press conference that Kaiser's committee would begin its work from February 28 and submit report within a week.

Amid allegations of serious infighting among the indisciplined juniors, Bangladesh crashed out of the Plate semifinals.

Both manager and coach of the team, on their return, shocked the nation by disclosing the ominous truth that the grouping among players was the reason for the debacle where Bangladesh lost to rookies Nepal in semifinal and tied with lowly rated Canada in the first round.

"I have already began my job today. But what I feel is that I will need more time eventually. Because, I will have to deal with at

least 25 guys including all the players and officials. So, we require at least another week to get the job done," said Kaiser adding that he would be abroad from March 2 to 7.

"Besides, the players are also busy with the national league at different venues. So, it is also not possible to gather all in a week and take their statements," he said to a group of reporters at Jatiya Press Club yesterday.

Disclosing that the Board has already nominated former national captain Rouqibul Hasan as one of his committee members, Kaiser said he would have preferred to choose the team on his own to investigate without any influence or so.

"Ideally, I want to proceed the way I deem it fit. As the head of the committee I should have the right to pick my fellow investigators. I have already asked a clarification from the Board in this regard," said Kaiser, who is the secretary of Board's finance committee.

The Board's decision to include Rouqibul as a member of the probe committee is also being criticised by many observers including Board directors.

"How could Rouqibul become a member of a probe committee who himself was a subject of investigation two years two years back," questioned a Board director, opting anonymity.

## Nat'l Chess Zia keeps easy going

SPORTS REPORTER

Grand Master (GM) Ziaur Rahman of Biman took a solo lead in the final round of Professor Abdur Razzak 28th National Chess Championship with his second successive win at the NSC chess room on Thursday.

In the second round, Zia, who beat Syed Ruhul Kabir Shiplu in the opening round, registered an easy win over Sheikh Nasir Ahmed of Ansars.

Playing with black pieces, Zia adopted Sicilian defence and eventually won the board after 34 moves.

Four players -- International Master (IM) Reefat-bin-Sattar, IM Abdullah Al-Rakib, Fide Master Enamul Hossain Rajib of Biman and Ansars' Abu Sufian Shakil -- were in the crowded second spot collecting one and a half points each.

On Thursday, Rakib was forced to a draw by Syed Ruhul Kabir Shiplu of Titas Club while Reefat beat Saifuddin Lovlu of Titas Club. Rajib beat Syed Ejaz Ahmed of Dhaka University and Shakil checked-mated his teammate Shawkat Hossain Pallab.

The other match of the day between GM Niaz Mureshed of Titas Club and Tayebur Rahman Sumon of BPATC could not be held as the latter was not available for personal problem. The match will be held on a rest day now. The third round begins at the same venue today at 3pm. Today's matches are: Lavlu v Ejaz, Sumon v Reefat, Zia v Niaz, Rakib v Nasir, Shakil v Shiplu and Razib v Pollab.

## Another delay cricketers' transfer?

SPORTS REPORTER

The inter-club cricketers transfer for the Premier Division Cricket League, which was scheduled to be held from March 4 to 6, might be deferred by two weeks to allow Bangladesh A team cricketers to take part in the bourse.

A team is currently taking part in the Buxta Cup in West Indies.

Although the Cricket Committee of Dhaka Metropolitan (CCDM) has not yet made any formal announcement, but different club organisers hinted yesterday that they won't go ahead unless the 16 A team cricketers return home.

The second string Bangladesh side, led by Akram Khan, are scheduled to return either on March 15 or 16 on completion of their two-month Caribbean tour.

"The BCB has not yet given us any guideline about how we might involve those cricketers in the transfer. We still do not know how the clubs will register them," said an organiser of a leading club.

## WI organiser refutes Pat claim

REUTERS, Part of Spain

Preparations for hosting the 2007 World Cup in the West Indies are on track, the chief executive of the company planning the event has said on Thursday.

"I'm not concerned about the timing because we're on track. At this point, I have a very good idea of where we're going, having done three or four months of consultation," Chris Dehning, who was appointed head of Windies World Cup 2007 Inc. last year, told this news agency.

Dehning's comments came after former West Indies Cricket Board (WICB) president Pat Rousseau claimed West Indies could lose the tournament because of poor playing facilities.

Rousseau declared that only Grenada has the facilities to host World Cup matches and that customs and immigration checks in each country could affect the logistics of hosting the event.

"I have held more meetings than I can count with contractors, corporate event managers, logistics experts and communication companies prior to preparing a master plan for the tournament," Dehning said.

"I'm aiming to present it to the (WICB's) interim World Cup committee for discussion by the end of March."

"We're going to have to put in place a structure that suits our own particular circumstances."

Dehning cautioned against "general apathy" and said it was crucial that the WICB and relevant governments realise the urgency of the situation with the biggest single sporting event ever staged in the Caribbean now only five years away.

"I spoke to Pat (Rousseau) a few days ago and I'm sure his comments were meant to be taken in that light," he said.

"He knows that, right now, there's a lot of background work, a lot of preparatory work being done."

"They are coming basically to complete groundwork for the tours by New Zealand and Australia this year and security will be one of the aspects they would look into," Pakistan Cricket Board director Brigadier Munawwar Rana told Reuters.

## Dhaka stage fightback

### Rajshahi consolidate



ISPAHANI MIRZAPORE TEA 3rd National Cricket League

SPORTS REPORTER

Dhaka came back into contention in the second innings when the run-away leaders reached 133 for two at stumps on the second day of their four-day Ispahani National League match against Khulna at the Jessore Stadium on Thursday.

But Khulna took a first innings lead of 93 runs in a match that is being looked at from different perspectives by both teams. The home side responded with 252 after Dhaka were bowled out for 159 on the opening day.

While Dhaka is fighting for glory, Khulna is considering the affair as a 'grudge match' after the events of the previous round at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium where Khulna captain Hasanuzzaman was suspended and the whole team was fined for acting against the spirit of the game.

Hasanuzzaman shrugged off the Dhaka episode with a stubborn 77 as Khulna, resuming the day on 115 for five, added 137 runs before being all out in 98.5 overs. His comeback knock was a blow for Dhaka who will now have to win to claim their first League title with a game in hand.

The visitors however still have a fair chance to turn the table around provided that they put up an imposing total.

The League leaders bowled out cheaply in the first innings started impressively with the top-order making runs.

At the close Mohammad Ashraf

and experienced Jahangir Alam were batting on 29 and 45 respectively. They put on 59 runs for the third wicket, giving Dhaka a lead of 39 runs.

While Dhaka were trying hard to erase their earlier disappointment, Rajshahi looked on course for another victory as they bid to take the title race into the final round.

National captain Khaled Mashud's team transformed their overnight score of 215 to 300 with left-arm spinner Mustadir Litu making an unbeaten 65 at the Sylhet Stadium.

Sylhet, in reply, were 119 for four with captain Parvez scoring a gutsy 56 not out.

In the battle of no-hoppers at the MA Aziz Stadium, hosts Chittagong took a valuable first innings lead of 65 runs against Barisal.

The home side resuming on 44 for three went on to score 267 despite their champion batsman Minhazul Abedin failed with the bat.

Minhaz was 77 runs short of becoming the first player to score 1000 runs in the League. But the experienced right-hander could score five before being caught off right-arm seamer Ashfaq Ali in the fifth over of the day.

Chittagong however recovered from a precarious 57 for five thanks to a 101-run stand between Nafis Iqbal and Azam Iqbal for the sixth wicket.

Nafis, who captained the Bangladesh Under-19 team in New Zealand recently, scored a fine 77 while Azam played a captain's knock of 40.

National left-arm spinner Enamul Hoque followed up his four-wicket

haul with 46. Ashfaq was the most successful Barisal bowler with 44 for three.

## SCORECARDS

Scoreboards on the second day of the three Ispahani National League matches played at different venues across the country on Thursday:

**Dhaka v Khulna**  
Venue: Jessore

**DHAKA:** First innings 159 all out in 43.5 overs (Rashedul 50, Jahangir 26; Tushar 6/41, Razzak 2/21)

**KHULNA:** First innings (overnight 115 for 5 in 44 overs)

Raju c Sumon b Rafique 14  
Nahidul b K Mahmud 14  
Jamal lbw b Rafique 16  
Sajjad c Neeyamur b Rafique 12  
Razzak c Fahim b Ashraf 11  
Biplob c Fahim b K Mahmud 28  
Hasanuzzaman c K Mahmud b Neeyamur 77  
Salim c Sumon b Rafique 6  
Tushar c Shipon b Rafique 27  
Al-Amin lbw b Fahim 10  
Russel not out 17  
Extras: (b-2, lb-10, nb-4, w-4) 20  
Total: (All out in 98.5 overs) 252

Fall of wickets: 1-20, 2-39, 3-62, 4-69, 5-89, 6-115, 7-132, 8-213, 9-228

**Bowler** O M R W  
K Mahmud 16 9 32 2  
Neeyamur 17 6 31 1  
Fahim 18.5 3 60 1  
Rafique 35 14 73 5  
Ashraf 10 2 44 1  
Javed 2 2 0 0

**DHAKA:** Second innings  
Rashedul b Jamal 19  
Shipon c Hasanuzzaman b Al-Amin 38  
Jahangir batting 45  
Ashraf batting 29

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## Al-Rashid Siraj memorial cricket champs

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Al-Rashid Cricket Academy clinched the fourth AB Bank Siraj Memorial Cricket tournament title beating Lotus Club by four wickets in the final at the Rajshahi Collectorate ground yesterday.

Winning the toss, Lotus decided to bat first and were all out for 152 runs in 39.1 overs.

In reply, Al-Rashid reached the target for six wickets in 35.5 overs.

## M'singh cricket

OUR CORRESPONDENT, M'singh

Shapla Krira Chakra defeated Mohammedan Sporting Club by five wickets in the Premier Division Cricket League at the Circuit House ground yesterday.

Batting first Mohammedan scored 153 runs all out in 44.5 overs.

In reply, Shapla reached the target for five wickets in 40 overs.

## BRIEF SCORES

**MOHAMMEDAN:** 153/10 (Suman 36, Harunor Rashid 29; Sumon 2/11, Prince 2/25, Habibul Bashar 2/27, Rashed 2/25).

**SHAPLA:** 156/5 (Adil 50, Selim 31, Kuntal 29, Ararat 4/31).

In another match at local stadium, Pandit Para AC beat County Club by 70 runs.

Pandit Para scored 284 runs for five wickets in 45 overs.

In reply, County made 214 for six wickets in the stipulated overs.

## BRIEF SCORES

**PANDIT PARA AC:** 284/5 (Rangan 101, Sajal 64, Uthpal 27, Rabin 20, Hasan 18, Rinku 22, Rabin 2/43).

**COUNTY:** 214/6 (Sumon 54, Uttam 52, Rabi 23, Chandan 22, Dipu 21).

## Magura cricket

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Magura

Babul Smriti Sangha defeated Hercules Sporting Club by three wickets in the Econo Cricket League at the Magura Stadium on Thursday.

Winning the toss, Hercules batted first and collected 151 runs all out in 32.5 overs.

In reply, Babul Smriti reached the target scoring 154 runs for seven wickets in 33.4 overs.



PHOTO: STAR  
Rehearsal of the Seventh Bangladesh Games' opening ceremony's display event is going on in full pace at the Bangabandhu National Stadium as this picture shows on Thursday.

## Seventh Bangladesh Games Soccer starts first

SPORTS REPORTER

The football competition of the Seventh Bangladesh Games will kick off on March 7 at the Sher-e-Bangla Stadium, four days before the opening of the Games.

Ten teams -- five divisions (Dhaka, Sylhet, Chittagong, Khulna and Rajshahi), Army, Navy, Air Force, Police and Dhaka University -- will take part in the competition, to be played on robin league format. Barisal Division and Customs teams have opted to skip the 12-team tournament.

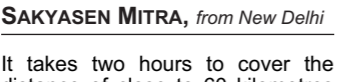
Top two teams from Group C will advance into the semifinals along with the champions of Group A and B. Semifinals will be held on March 15 and the final on March 17.

Dhaka University, champions of the sixth Bangladesh Games in 1996, have been placed in Group A along with Bangladesh Air Force and Sylhet. Runners-up Dhaka Division lead Group B that includes Bangladesh Navy and Rajshahi. Bangladesh Army, Police, Chittagong and Khulna form Group C.

Date	Match	Venue	Kick-off time
March 7	Navy v Dhaka	SBNS	3:15 pm
	Dhaka University v Sylhet	SBNS	5:15 pm
March 8	Army v Khulna	SBNS	3:15 pm
	Chittagong v Police	SBNS	5:15 pm
March 9	Sylhet v Air Force	SBNS	3:15 pm
	Rajshahi v Navy	SBNS	5:15 pm
March 10	Army v Police	BAS	3:15 pm
	Chittagong v Khulna	SBNS	5:15 pm
March 11	Rest for opening ceremony		
March 12	Dhaka v Rajshahi	BAS	3:15 pm
	Dhaka University v Air Force	SBNS	6:30 pm
March 13	Police v Khulna	BAS	3:15 pm
	Army v Chittagong	SBNS	6:30 pm
March 14	Rest		
March 15	Semifinals		
March 16	Play-off for 3rd position		
March 17	Final		

**Note:**  
**SBNS:** Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium.  
**BAS:** Bangladesh Army Stadium.  
The venue and kick-off times for semifinals, third place play-off and final will be announced later.

## Proud to be a Sehwaag

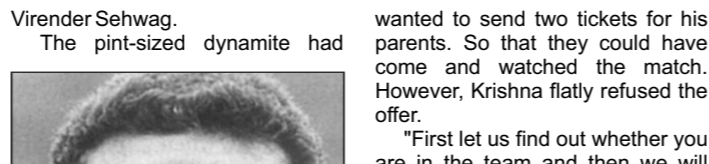


SAKYASEN MITRA, from New Delhi

It takes two hours to cover the distance of close to 60 kilometres from New Delhi to Nazabgarh. And on Thursday an old man would go to sell potatoes and other vegetables at the local market. But, his mind would be at Ferozshah Kotla.

Kishan Sehwaag hopes to see his son play in the first Test against Zimbabwe. While Kishan's wife Krishna, will probably switch on the television with the same expectation.

Their son, is none other than India's latest batting sensation,



Virender Sehwaag.  
The pint-sized dynamite had wanted to send two tickets for his parents. So that they could have come and watched the match. However, Krishna flatly refused the offer.

"First let us find out whether you are in the team and then we will decide whether we come or not," was the answer when Sehwaag phoned his mother on the eve of the Test.

Sehwaag said, "The same thing happened in a one-day international against England here a few days back. At that time, my mother had asked me to concentrate on the game rather than thinking about getting tickets for them. She has been an epitome of sacrifice."

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## Andy, Dion steady Zim



REUTERS, New Delhi

Andy Flower and Dion Ebrahim hit fighting half-centuries to lift Zimbabwe to 260 for six wickets on the opening day of the second and final Test against India on Thursday.

The 21-year-old Ebrahim was unbeaten on a career-best 82 after left-hander Flower hit a sparkling 92 to rescue Zimbabwe from a disastrous start at the Ferozeshah Kotla

ground.

The two shared in a 116-run fourth wicket partnership to shore up the Zimbabwe innings after they had been reduced to 11 for two in the morning after skipper Stuart Carlsie chose to bat on winning the toss.

Ebrahim, brought in to bolster the middle-order after the tourists lost the first Test in Nagpur by an innings and 101 runs, held firm despite Zimbabwe losing two quick wickets towards the close.

Looking to score his maiden Test hundred after surpassing his previ-

ous best of 71, Ebrahim has so far hit nine fours in an innings spanning over four-and-a-half hours.

He first played the supporting role to Flower's aggressive batting before taking over once his senior partner fell eight runs short of a 13th Test century at his favourite ground.

Flower, Zimbabwe's most prolific Test batsman, set aside his recent poor form by smashing 15 fours and a six during his 164-ball knock before falling to a bat-pad catch to off-spinner Harbhajan Singh soon after tea.

He revived Zimbabwe after left-arm Ziaur Khan struck twice in the morning in seamer-friendly conditions after fellow seamer Javagal Srinath had dismissed Carlsie for a fourth ball duck in the first over.

Flower first added 54 runs with fellow left-hander Alistair Campbell (16) for the third wicket before joining Ebrahim to dominate leg-spinner Anil Kumble and Singh on a barren first day pitch.

Ebrahim batted steadily to add 55 runs with Grant Flower (30) for the fifth wicket before Kumble ran out Flower with a direct hit and had Heath Streak (0) playing onto his stumps.

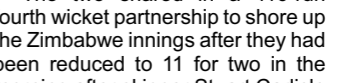
Zimbabwe's hopes of a turnaround looked remote when Srinath beat Carlsie with a sharp in-swinging which clipped the ball.

Trevor Gripper and Campbell fell to slip catches before Flower saw off the pace attack to help his side reach lunch at 74 for three.

Flower, who has scored centuries at the venue in his two previous Tests, 115 in 1992-93 and 183 not out in 2000, reached his 26th Test

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## Pak safety to be checked



REUTERS/AFP, Karachi

Their tour was cancelled four days after the September 11 attacks on the United States which triggered security fears in and around Pakistan which was a frontline ally in the US-led war in Afghanistan.

Rana confirmed that itinerary details of this year's tours by New Zealand and Australian teams would also be discussed and agreed upon with the visiting representatives.

"We have dispatched tentative itineraries to both Boards, but we anticipate discussions on the venues we have suggested and maybe even modifications," he added.

Australia are scheduled to tour Pakistan for three Tests and as many one-day games in September-October.

He said Crowe, May and the others would visit all venues and inspect the facilities there, including security at grounds, hotels and for internal travel.

"We have been maintaining that security fears are media-hyped and cricket is safe in Pakistan," Rana said.

"Pakistan's interior ministry has also given full assurances of security to the New Zealand Board so we hope that all will settle down after that."

Crowe also visited Pakistan in

## India's Anil Kumble (C) appeals unsuccessfully for an lbw decision against Andy Flower of Zimbabwe on the first day of the second and final Test in New Delhi on Thursday.

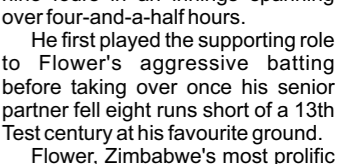


PHOTO: INTERNET  
India's Anil Kumble (C) appeals unsuccessfully for an lbw decision against Andy Flower of Zimbabwe on the first day of the second and final Test in New Delhi on Thursday.