



## Did U Know?

Former England captain Gary Lineker was known as a gentleman of the game of football. The mild-mannered striker scored six goals in the 1986 World Cup finals.



## Talk Turkey



**Shaun Pollock**  
(South Africa cricket captain)  
"I don't believe they are unbeatable. If things are running for you, as they can in cricket, we can beat them."  
About Australia.



## What to Watch

- BTV**  
New Zealand vs Sri Lanka  
Sharjah Cup Tri Series (D/N)  
Live at 5:00 pm
- ESPN**  
South Africa vs Australia  
Sixth ODI  
Highlights at 7:00 am  
English Premier Football League  
Leicester City vs Man United  
3:00 pm
- South Africa vs Australia**  
Seventh ODI (D/N)  
Live at 6:25 pm  
**Sportscentre Hindi**  
Sport News  
Live at 10:00 pm  
**Sportscentre Hindi**  
Sport News  
Live at 8:30 pm  
Cricket Programming  
Super Selector  
9:00 pm  
English Premier Football League  
Leicester City vs Man United  
9:30 pm
- STAR Sports**  
Harsha Online  
Cricket Talk Show  
8:30 am  
Cricket Programming  
Super Selector  
9:30 am  
English Premier Football  
Bolton Wanderers v Ipswich Town  
1:00 pm  
Harsha Online  
Cricket Talk Show  
3:00 pm  
**Sportline Tonight**  
Sport News  
Live at 8:00 pm

- STAR Sports**  
Harsha Online  
Cricket Talk Show  
8:30 am  
Cricket Programming  
Super Selector  
9:30 am  
English Premier Football  
Bolton Wanderers v Ipswich Town  
1:00 pm  
Harsha Online  
Cricket Talk Show  
3:00 pm  
**Sportline Tonight**  
Sport News  
Live at 8:00 pm

## Star WHIZZ KID COMPETITION 169

Tick the correct answers, post to  
**The Daily Star**  
Win attractive prizes  
Competition closes at 8 pm  
April 12, 2002 and draw  
shortly afterwards

- Who clinched the Indian Wells Masters Series tennis title?  
Hewitt    Henman    Agassi
- Who won the Bangladesh Games hockey title?  
Dhaka    BDR    BJMC
- How many balls did Nathan Asle face to score Test cricket's fastest double century?  
1532    0
- Who lifted the Bangladesh Games football title?  
Chittagong    Dhaka    Army
- How many gold medals did Doly Akhter win in Bangladesh Games?  
Nine    Seven    Ten

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

# Mashrafe's career at stake Who is to blame?



RABEED IMAM

Watching him in action was like a dream come true for any avid Bangladeshi cricket fan. Mashrafe-bin-Mortuza, the 18 year old pace tyro from the little-known district of Narail, burst into the international scene last year and caught the imagination of millions at home and abroad in the space of 5-odd Test matches and one-day internationals. Sadly, the dream was halted abruptly.

In it's April 6 edition, the Daily Star Sport published a report titled 'Mashrafe in injury abyss.' With it was a disturbing picture of the sensational teen-ager in crutches at a local clinic in Dhaka. The young man who had, and may still have, the potential to strike terror into the hearts of batsmen around the world, can't even walk without crutches now!

So what happened? It's a long story of a typical fast bowler's injury, wrong-handling, questionable treatment and possible negligence.

Mashrafe was hailed as the most exciting discovery for Bangladesh when he created a stir in local cricket with his genuine pace and unmistakable aggression.

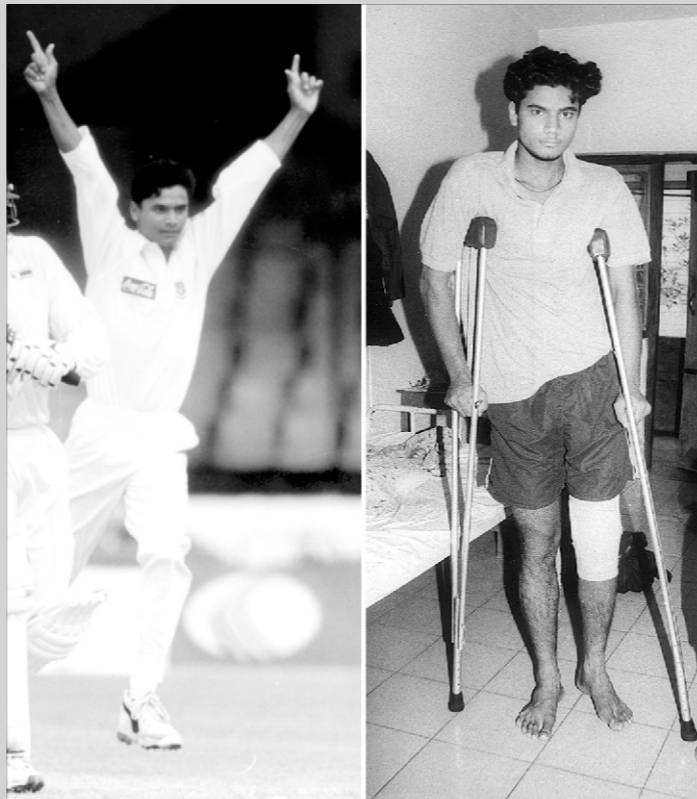
Never has the country seen any bowler as fast as him. Even people with the slightest knowledge of the game could understand that this 6ft 1inch tall strapping lad was something special.

Recognition of his enormous potential came even from the great West Indian pace legend Andy Roberts who, during a coaching stint with local pacemen, singled out Mashrafe as someone who could hurl deliveries at 90mph in near future.

National coach Trevor Chappell had gone on record as saying, "Mashrafe is the only bowler in Bangladesh capable of forcing an opposing batsman on the back foot."

With no experience of playing in the big league, Mashrafe was at best a rookie in terms of maturity. However, the selectors of the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) had seen enough of him to realise that Mashrafe was a Godsend for this country which is so short of exceptional talents.

Mashrafe was thrust into the ultimate form of the game the Test cricket. Like any quality talent, he relished the opportunity and gave experienced batsmen of Zimbabwe and New Zealand a lot of discomfort on his way to making the grade. His body language had enough evi-



THEN & NOW: (L) An elated Mashrafe-bin-Mortuza celebrating a Test scalp in November 2001. (R) A sorry sight on crutches at a clinic in Dhaka last week.

dence to suggest that the speedster was destined for greatness.

His captains wanted him to bowl as many overs as his delicate body could take as he was the only strike bowler of the side, and Mashrafe obliged them little knowing that disaster was just around the corner.

Just when things began to look rosy, Mashrafe was struck by a rib and muscle injury.

According to the report of Bangladesh national team's Australian physiotherapist John Gloster submitted to the BCB on January 6, the fast bowler had suffered: "Left 'side' injury-initially on 'A' tour to India (Oct. 2001) after long bowling spells."

For reasons better known to the physio, Mashrafe then toured New Zealand with the Bangladesh team in December 2001 and broke down during the second Test.

Two things should be taken into account here. Mashrafe's injury was first spotted in October but he was sent to New Zealand a month later. Was he cured?

The physio mentioned "long bowling spells" as a possible reason behind the injury. Was he being forced insensibly to bowl too much?

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# Hannan harms Abahani



SPORTS REPORTER

An underrated Hannan Sarker hit an unbeaten century as Surjo Tarun inflicted a three-wicket defeat on Abahani Krira Chakra in a Grameen-Phone Premier League match at the BKSP in Savar yesterday.

The young right-hander, who has been considered as a useful cricketer but not a match winner, finally proved his critics wrong in a game that tested any cricketer's mettle.

Hannan scored a superlative 106 as Surjo Tarun, chasing a moderate Abahani total of 193, overhauled the target in 46.4 overs losing seven wickets.

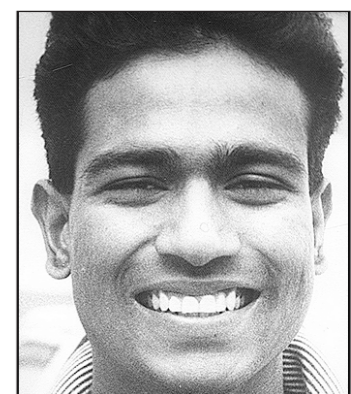
It was however not his first ton in the League. But in the manner in which he single-handedly took a youthful Tarun to an outstanding victory against one of the two big teams in the country spoke volumes for his ability as a quality player.

It was Abahani's second defeat

The diminutive batsman with a solid defence hammered 13 boundaries and a six in his 138-ball unblemished innings.

But the Tarun victory in the 47th over came in the most unlikely manner when off-spinner Naimur Rahman bowled three consecutive wide deliveries to concede seven runs after Hanna took a single of the first ball. Naimur's first wide ball was hammered for a four.

Earlier, the Abahani total was once again built around a captain's knock of 50 from Akram Khan. The big right-hander had the misfortune of being run out while chasing a second run. It was a brilliant direct hit by Shafaq-al-Zabir from long leg that



HANNAN ... 106 n.o

caught Akram short of his ground. Abahani's Pakistani left-hander Mohammad Hossain struck a 41-ball 44 but the rests failed miserably.

National opener Mehrab Hossain scored only two, Nafees made seven and Naimur managed to score only one.

Tarun's left-arm spinner Illias Sunny captured three wickets for 25 runs.

## B I M A N B E A T KALABAGAN

While Abahani tumbled Bangladesh Biman cruised to a five-wicket win over Kalabagan Krira Chakra at the Bangabandhu National Stadium.

Young middle-order batsman Aftab Ahmed scored an authoritative 59 and skipper Faruque Ahmed struck 40 as Biman, chasing a not-so-impressive Kalabagan total of 193, reached 194 for five in 40.2 overs.

Aftab, a member of the Bangladesh Under-19 team, hammered six delightful fours and smote two massive sixes in his polished 79-ball knock.

Faruque was unfortunate of being adjudged caught behind ten runs short of a well deserved half-century. The experienced right-hander struck half a dozen fours.

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## Div I cricket Enam gives Eskaton a solid start

SPORTS REPORTER

Eskaton Sabuj Sangha began their First Division campaign on a winning note beating Dhaka Wanderers Club by 23 runs at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium yesterday.

Middle-order batsman Hadi hammered 69 as Eskaton posted a fighting 236 for nine in the regulation 50 overs after they elected to bat first.

Hadi, the right-handed stroke-maker from Sylhet, hit one six and five fours in his 82-ball knock. Bimal also hit a 77-ball 50.

In reply, the Wanderers innings caved in for 213 in 47.3 overs with Enam taking six wickets for 39 runs. Sajjadul tpscored for Wanderers with 59.

**BRIEF SCORE:**  
ESKATON SS: 236 for 9 in 50 overs (Hadi 69, Bimal 50, Shishir 44, Tota 34, Saiful 3-52)

**DHAKA WANDERERS:** 213 all out in 47.3 overs (Sajjadul 59, Javed 45, Tashriqul 30, Enam 6-39)  
**Result:** Eskaton sabuj Sangha won by 23 runs

# Sanath leads from front



AFP, Sharjah

Pakistan overcame a blistering knock from Sri Lankan captain Sanath Jayasuriya to keep their rivals down to 242-9 from 50 overs in the Sharjah Cup opener here on Monday.

Jayasuriya, who won the toss and elected to bat, hammered 87 off 78 balls before Pakistan fought back with quick wickets in the middle overs and towards the end.

Sri Lanka were tottering at 128-4 in the 25th over, but Russel Arnold hit a valuable 57 to boost the total in the day-night international.

Arnold put on 43 for the fifth wicket with Ramesh Kaluwitharana and 52 off 42 balls for the sixth with Upul Chandana (30).

Fast bowler Shoaib Akhtar was the pick of Pakistan's bowlers, taking three for 30 in his 10 overs.

Left-handed Jayasuriya, who smashed 10 boundaries and three sixes in his whirlwind innings, hit 22 runs in one over from Abdul Razzaq. He gave a chance at 72 when he pulled Razzaq to deep square-leg

where Yousef Youhana spilled an easy catch.

Jayasuriya scored at a brisk pace even as his partners fell cheaply at the other end.

Kumar Sangakkara managed just 10 in a nine-over opening stand of 50 with Jayasuriya, who dominated the strike to score 36.

Marvan Atapattu (six) was caught behind trying to hook Akhtar, while Mahela Jayawardena (eight) fell to an uppish on-drive off Razzaq which was taken at mid-wicket.

Jayasuriya missed his 12th one-day century by 13 runs when he was finally dismissed in the 25th over, edging an away swinger from Razzaq to wicket-keeper Rashid Latif.

Sri Lanka lost their last four wickets for 16 runs as Pakistan set themselves a target of 4.9 runs an over.

New Zealand is the third team in the 250,000-dollar tournament.

**SCOREBOARD**  
Scoreboard of the Sri Lanka innings against Pakistan in the Sharjah Cup one-day international tournament on Monday:  
**SRI LANKA**  
Jayasuriya c Latif b Razzaq 87

Team	M	W	L	Pts
Mohammedan	7	6	1	12
Victoria	5	4	1	8
Biman	5	4	1	8
Abahani	6	4	2	8
Brothers Union	6	4	2	8
City Club	5	3	2	6
Surjo Tarun	7	3	4	6
Y Pegasus	5	2	3	4
Kalabagan	6	2	4	4
Uttara SC	6	1	5	2
Dhanmondi	5	1	4	2
Y Cricketers	5	-	5	0

where Yousef Youhana spilled an easy catch. Jaysuriya scored at a brisk pace even as his partners fell cheaply at the other end. Kumar Sangakkara managed just 10 in a nine-over opening stand of 50 with Jayasuriya, who dominated the strike to score 36. Marvan Atapattu (six) was caught behind trying to hook Akhtar, while Mahela Jayawardena (eight) fell to an uppish on-drive off Razzaq which was taken at mid-wicket. Jaysuriya missed his 12th one-day century by 13 runs when he was finally dismissed in the 25th over, edging an away swinger from Razzaq to wicket-keeper Rashid Latif. Sri Lanka lost their last four wickets for 16 runs as Pakistan set themselves a target of 4.9 runs an over. New Zealand is the third team in the 250,000-dollar tournament.

Player	O	M	R	W
Akram	10	1	45	1
Waqaar	9	0	49	1
Akhtar	10	1	30	3
Razzaq	9	0	48	2
Saqain	10	0	48	1
Alfridi	2	0	17	0

**PAKISTAN:** Waqaar Younis, Imran Nazir, Shahid Afridi, Inzamamul Haq, Younis Khan, Yousef Youhana, Abdul Razzaq, Rashid Latif, Wasim Akram, Shoaib Akhtar, Saqain Musthaq.

**Umpires:** David Shepherd (England) and Russel Tiffin (Zimbabwe).

## Metro hockey Mariner maul Farashganj

SPORTS REPORTER

Mariner Youngs Club made a flying start in the Metro Premier Division Hockey League by grinding down Farashganj Sporting Club 12-0 in yesterday's lone match at the Maulana Bhasani Stadium.

In a one-sided affair, the winners scored six goals in each half.

Defender Yamin Hossain successfully converted four short corners while Tabib and Muksed netted two each. Besides, Ashik, Yusuf, Kutub and razzak added one each for the winners.

Earlier, in the day's first match, a brilliant hat-trick from Hosni Mubarak steered Azad Sporting Club to a 6-1 win over Mukta Bihanga in a First Division league match.

Apart from Mubarak's triple strikes in the 15th, 20th and 42nd minutes, Jahid, Rajib and Rony added one each. Mustafiz pulled one back for Muktabihanga.

## Premier Div volleyball

BSS, Dhaka

Bangladesh Water Development Board and Dilkusha Sporting Club won their respective matches in the National Bank Premier Division Volleyball League at the Dhaka Volleyball Stadium yesterday.

Bangladesh Water Development Board defeated Wari Club 25-15, 25-22 and 25-20 while Dilkusha Sporting Club beat Azad Sporting Club 26-24, 25-23 and 25-15 in the other match.

Bangladesh Rifles take on Bangladesh Police while Power Development Board meet Titas Club in the today's matches at the same venue.



Grand Master Ziaur Rahman (R) and International Master Reefat-bin-Sattar ponder their next moves during their tenth round engagement of the New White Plus GM's Chess Tournament at the NSC yesterday.

## New White Plus GM's Chess Reefat's costly loss

SPORTS REPORTER

International Master (IM) Reefat-bin-Sattar suffered a major set-back in the White Plus Grand Masters (GM) Chess Tournament when compatriot GM Ziaur Rahman defeated him in the 10th round at the NSC chess room yesterday.

Reefat dropped down to third spot after being in the joint lead prior to the day's round. He has seven points. Zia with the win, equalled Reefat's tally.

Indian GM Debendry Barua, who had shared the top spot with Reefat till the start of Monday's penultimate round, went into a solo lead with an easy win over GM Alexander Goloschchapov of Ukraine.

Barua now has eight points. Top seed GM Drazem Sermek of Slovenia is following Barua with 7.5 points after Monday's game. In the tenth round, Sermek beat Indian IM Neeraj Mishra.

Roktim Bandyopadhyay of India was in the 4th position with 6.5 points.

The final of the eleven-round Swiss League starts from 3 pm at the same venue today.

# Singh in doubt, Lara back



REUTERS/AFP, undated

India off-spinner Harbhajan Singh is doubtful for the first Test against the West Indies starting on Thursday in Guyana because of a shoulder injury.

Harbhajan was hurt while attempting a throw from the boundary on the final day of India's opening three-day tour game against a Guyana President's XI on Sunday.

Jagmohan Dalmiya, president of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) said in a statement in Calcutta on Monday that Harbhajan had flown to Trinidad for a scan.

"Harbhajan Singh experienced an uncomfortable sensation in the right shoulder," the statement said.

"This occurred during a single hard throw from the boundary. While he was able to bowl three overs following this incident, he felt it was best to come off the field for treatment."

The tourists won the game in

Georgetown by nine wickets. The first of India's five Tests is being played at the same venue.

Fellow off-spinner Sarandeep Singh has been told to be ready to fly out to the Caribbean at short notice if Harbhajan is ruled out for the opening game.

spinner Anil Kumble are regarded as key players for India, who are chasing their first Test series victory outside the sub-continent for 16 years.

The off-spinner took four for 37 in the first innings of the tour opener. Meanwhile, batting superstar



BRIAN LARA

Dalmiya, however, said Harbhajan was confident of recovering for the first Test.



HARBHAJAN SINGH

Brian Lara has been named in a 13-member West Indian squad for the first Test.

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# Easy workout for India



AFP, Georgetown

Indians warmed up for the opening Test against the West Indies with a nine-wicket win over a second-string Guyana Board President's XI in the three-day match here on Sunday.

Ace leg-spinner Anil Kumble starred in the tourists' victory in the only practice game before the first Test, starting at Bourda on April 11.

The spinner finished with 5-50 off 21 disciplined overs as the hosts, trailing by 130 runs, were shot out for 168 in their second innings on the third and final day at the Everest ground.

Left-arm seamer Zaheer Khan was the other successful bowler in the morning session, capturing the last two wickets to finish with 2-37.

The tourists faced no difficulty in scoring the 39 runs required for victory, with opener Shiv Sunder Das scoring an unbeaten 18 and Deep Dasgupta 19.

Kumble kept a tidy line and length to keep pressure on the

batsmen, bagging three of the remaining five Guyanese wickets after the hosts had resumed at 52-5.

The Indians' hopes of posting an innings win, however, were dashed by Guyanese wicketkeeper Vishal Nagamootoo, who scored a defiant 78.

Nagamootoo, younger brother of Test spinner Mahendra, hit 11 fours in his 107-ball knock to force the tourists bat again.

He kept the Indian attack at bay with his resolute batting after five, while pacemen Srithan and Zaheer shared the other eight.

All, however, was not well with the Indian batting even against the weak opposition.

Sanjay Bangar was the lone batsman to make the most of the opportunity, spending more than three hours at the crease for his 76.

Skipper Sourav Ganguly (52) and Laxman (43) threw their wickets when well-settled, while Sachin Tendulkar (18) and Rahul Dravid (two) could not even settle down.

He was on 76 in a total of 166 when dropped by Venkatsai Laxman at second slip off Zaheer. Nagamootoo was the last bats-



PHOTO: STAR

Goal-mouth action during yesterday's Premier Division Hockey League encounter between Mariner Youngs and Farashganj at the Maulana Bhasani National Stadium.

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