



Did U Know?

Former England cricketer D R Pringle made a brief appearance in the 1981 film 'Chariots of Fire.'



What to Watch

- ESPN**
- Bayer Leverkusen v Liverpool
 - UEFA Champions League
 - Same day delayed 10:30 am
 - Football Focus
 - Football Magazine
 - 1:00 pm
 - Australia v South Africa
 - 7th one-day international
 - Repeat at 3:30 pm
 - Sportscenter Hindi**
 - Sports News
 - Live at 8:30 pm
 - Goals!
 - Football Magazine
 - 9:00 pm
 - Western Union World Football
 - Football Magazine
 - 12:00 am
 - UEFA Champions League
 - Quarterfinals, Second leg**
 - Bayern Munich v Real Madrid
 - Live at 12:30 am (Thursday)
 - Deportivo Coruna v Man United
 - Same day delayed 3:00 am

STAR Sports

- Sportline Tonight
- Sports News
- Repeat at 8:00 am & 12:30 pm
- Deportivo v Mallorca
- Primera Liga
- Repeat at 8:30 am
- Leicester City v Man United
- English Premiership
- Taped version at 1:00 pm
- Sportline Tonight**
- Sports News
- Live at 8:00 pm



Mario Jardel
(Sporting Lisbon's prolific Brazilian striker)
"Hope is the last thing to die. I will fight until the last squad is named." After not being called into the Brazil team for the World Cup.

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 Astle face to score Test cricket's fastest double century?
1532 0 0
- Who lifted the Bangladesh 'Games football' title?
Chittagong Dhaka Army
- How many gold medals did Doly Akhter win in Bangladesh Games?
None Seven Ten

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



Victoria Sporting Club's veteran opening batsman Jahangir Alam sweeping against Young Pegasus at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Victoria victorious

Uttara stun City



Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

The 'Centenary' team of Victoria Sporting Club moved into second position in the GrameenPhone Premier League when they defeated Young Cricketers by seven wickets at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

In the other match of the day, another big spending team City Club suffered a five-wicket defeat against Uttara Sporting Club in a rain-curtailed encounter at the Bangladesh Krira Shikkha Protsithan (BKSP) in Savar. **VICTORIA V YOUNG CRICKETERS** Former national seamer Saiful Islam led Victoria to their fifth victory in six

games with a five-wicket haul.

The experienced paceman from Mymensingh bowled a devastating spell with the new ball as Young Cricketers were bundled out for 112 runs in 35.5 overs.

The match at the BNS was reduced to a 44-over contest due to overnight rain.

Saiful finished with five for 27 from his quota of nine overs. His new-ball partner and national left-arm paceman Monjurul Islam captured two wickets giving away 28 runs.

Sentu with 32 was the top scorer for Young Cricketers followed by Iftekher, who made 30.

Victoria, in their chase, raced to 115 in 26.2 overs with one-down Jahangir Alam hammering an unbeaten 48 off 65 balls. The former national opener struck five boundaries.

Raja, who flew into Dhaka on Monday, made an impressive League debut with an unbeaten 56

in his side's fighting total of 139 in the 25-over a side contest.

But an exciting undefeated 36-run sixth wicket stand between Faisal Hossain and Arman throttled Uttara to their second victory. Uttara needed 36 runs from the last 29 deliveries with five wickets in hand.

Faisal, who had earlier captured two wickets, struck a 30-ball 31 as Uttara topped the City total with three balls to spare.

Arman was more aggressive of the two with a blazing 23 off 16 balls that included two huge sixes and a four.

SOCREBOARDS Scoreboards of the two GrameenPhone Premier Division Cricket League matches played at different venues in the city on Tuesday:

Victoria SC vs Young Cricketers

Venue: BNS

YOUNG CRICKETERS

Imran c K Masood b Monjurul	6
Zahid b Saiful	2
Nayan Al-Shahriar b Saiful	0
Jibran c K Masood b Saiful	2
Shamsul c Masud b Saiful	6
Shahidul c Al-Shahriar b Monjurul	5
Iftekher b Rashed	30

CITY CLUB V UTTARA SPORTING

At the BKSP City Club failed to avoid their third successive defeat despite fielding Pakistani Test cap Hasan Raja and having Australian Trevor Chappell as their new coach.

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Nigerian booters' woe ends finally

SPORTS REPORTER

Mohammedan Sporting Club claimed to have cleared all their dues with their three Nigerian footballers on Monday, eight months after they played for the black and whites in the Premier Division League.

Club general secretary Lokman Hossain Bhuyian said yesterday that they settled everything on Monday by paying full salaries to the three players -- Jide, Abdullah and John. However, the three Nigerians could not be reached for comments till filing of this report.

The reputed club made this move following a letter published in The Daily Star. Power, water and gas connections of the players' rented house was cut off as the penniless Nigerians owed around eighty thousands to the landlord.

Claiming that lack of funds was the reason for the non-payment, Lokman agreed that this treatment to the foreign players brought very bad publicity for the club.

Trevor's stint formally over

SPORTS REPORTER

Trevor Chappell's stint as Bangladesh coach was formally over after a meeting with Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) president Ali Ashgar yesterday.

The meeting was held at BCB's management office in Gulshan. During the meeting, a letter of termination was handed over to the former Australian cricketer. His termination, effective from March 30 this year, came after 13 months of his taking over of Bangladesh cricket.

Trevor, who returned in Dhaka on April 7 after spending a month-long holiday back home, accepted the letter on condition that the Board would provide him three-month's compensatory salary as per agreement.

This was confirmed by BCB director Syed Ashraf Hujj yesterday.

Trevor has however already got a new job in Premier Division side City Club. He had his first training session at the City Club ground on Monday afternoon.

But he could not make a winning debut as his team lost to Uttara Sporting Club by five wickets at the BKSP ground yesterday.

He also revealed that former Pakistan Test cricketer Mohsin Kamal would take over the Bangladesh team from early next month along with Ali Zia, whose appointment would be as trainer of the team.

Metro hockey Ajax edge past BSP

SPORTS REPORTER

Ajax Sporting Club registered a 2-0 win over Bangladesh Sporting Club in a Metro Premier Division Hockey League clash at the Maulana Bhasani Stadium yesterday.

After a barren first half, Shipu put the Elephant Road-based club ahead with a field goal in the 54th minute while Biaka Lusai doubled the margin after 12 minutes with yet another field goal.

Earlier, Sadharan Bima blanked Victoria Sporting Club 10-0 in the First Division League.

The winners scored five goals in each half. Abdus Samad scored highest six goals with a hatrick while Murad netted twice. Shahen Ali and Salek scored the other two goals for the winners.

Premier v'ball

UNB, Dhaka

Bangladesh Rifles and Titus Club won their respective matches in the National Bank Metropolitan Premier Division Volleyball League at the Dhaka Volleyball Stadium yesterday.

Defending champions Rifles beat Bangladesh Police by straight 3-0 sets while current runners-up Titus defeated Power Development Board by 3-1 sets.

DAY'S EVENT

GrameenPhone Premier Cricket League
Brothers Union v Young Pegasus
Venue: Bangabandhu National Stadium

Metro Premier Hockey League
Mohammedan SC v wari Club (4 pm)
Venue: Maulana Bhasani Stadium

Abahani meet Chaturanga

Nitol-Tata 2nd NFL starts today

Football

SPORTS REPORTER

Holders Abahani Krira Chakra will take on qualifiers Chaturanga Sangha of Sylhet in the inaugural match of the Nitol-Tata 2nd

National Football League final round at the MA Aziz Stadium in Chittagong on April 16.

A total of ten teams, split into two groups, would participate in the league to be played on round robin format. Group matches commence in four different venues -- Chittagong, Sylhet, Jessore and

Rajshahi. After the first round, which is scheduled to end on May 13, the top two teams from each group will advance into the semifinals. But, to decide who to play whom in the semis, the teams would engage in a freshly-introduced unusual league, named as 'Super Four' phase.

Team finishing atop in the 'Super Four' would meet the third team while the second and fourth placed outfits would engage in the other semifinal.

The Super Four, semifinals and final will be held in Dhaka. Semifinals are scheduled to be held on May 22 and the final on May 24.

Abahani, the winners of the opening edition in 2000, have been placed in Group A along with T&T Club of Barisal, Abahani KC of Khulna, Chaturanga Sangha and Bangladesh Army. Their arch-rivals and runners-up Mohammedan Sporting Club lead the other group that also includes Chittagong Abahani, Muktiyoddha Sangsad Krira Chakra, Mohsin Club of Nayaranganj and Abahani KC of Rajshahi.

Mohammedan would meet Mohsin Club of Nayaranganj in their Group B opener on April 18 at the same venue.

Bangladesh Television will telecast all the matches live.

Bests face to face

Cricket

REUTERS, Georgetown

The "who's the world's best batsman?" debate has produced a hung verdict for almost a decade.

Both Brian Charles Lara and Sachin Ramesh Tendulkar have made it impossible for the other to don the mantle without dispute.

The central protagonists in

cricket ball since Viv Richards.

Tendulkar, India's batting lynchpin for more than a decade, has been hailed as modern cricket's most complete player by a plethora of experts, including the late Don Bradman.

But the West Indian is a runaway leader if match-winning innings are taken as the barometer.

No one has struck more memorable knocks over the last 12 years than the 32-year-old left-hander.

istic shuffle and the powerful punch that sends the ball racing to the fence are a part of Lara folklore," Richards said in an interview.

"If Lara is batting one day and Sachin the next, I won't choose between the two, I'll watch them both."

But if consistency alone were the key to the debate, Tendulkar, third on the all-time test centuries list with 28 in 91 matches, would be a comfortable pick.

The 28-year-old has scored his 7,673 test runs at 58.57.

"There is no doubt Sachin will cross Don Bradman's 29 Test hundreds in the Caribbean," former Test player Atul Wassan said.

Huge expectations from millions of fans in India before every series put a huge burden of responsibility on Tendulkar.

Seen as India's Mr Reliable, the man who fights on when everyone else has failed, anything less than a hundred from him is considered a disappointment.

The 28-year-old from Bombay has struck several stand-out innings since his first Test ton at Old Trafford during India's 1990 tour of England.

His 177 at Nottingham and fighting 114 at Perth in 1992 were both hallmarks of his aggressive approach.

The legendary Bradman said Tendulkar's strokeplay reminded him of his own batting.

But the Indian has often been accused of not delivering the killer blow in Tests -- a charge he has not denied.

He was heavily criticised after India lost by 12 runs despite his 136 in the fourth innings against Pakistan at Madras in 1999.

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SACHIN TENDULKAR



BRIAN LARA

India's five-Test series in the West Indies starting on Thursday, Lara and Tendulkar will this time be involved in a head-to-head fight for the crown in what promises to be a dramatic Caribbean series.

"Who is better is the most difficult question to answer," former Indian captain Ajit Wadekar said last week.

"We need to study them at several levels, measure them against a wide range of yardsticks. And still it's a close call."

Lara, known as much for his flamboyance as for his world record Test score of 375, is perhaps the most belligerent dispatcher of a

Lara has 7,221 runs in 83 Tests at an average of 50.49. His 18 centuries include three double-hundreds and one triple-ton.

His 277 at Sydney in 1993 against Australia and his 179 two years later at The Oval against England were both priceless.

But what truly defined Lara's style of play was the unbeaten 153 at Barbados in March 1999, when he brought up the last 69 runs with Curtly Ambrose and last-man Courtney Walsh to chase down 308 in the fourth innings for a stunning one-wicket win over Australia.

"The high backlift, the character-

NZ in Muralitharan spin

Cricket

AFP, Sharjah

Sri Lanka's ace spinner Muttiah Muralitharan grabbed five wickets for nine runs in 10 overs to restrict New Zealand to 218-8 in the three-nation Sharjah Cup here on Tuesday.

The versatile off-spinner, whose 3-27 routed Pakistan on Monday, once again showed his guile after New Zealand elected to take first strike in the day-night international.

The Kiwis were 159-7 at one stage before Jacob Oram smashed an unbeaten 46 off 33 balls, with five fours and two sixes, to boost the total.

Muralitharan's devastation left Sri Lanka facing a moderate target of 4.4 runs an over to record their second successive win in the 250,000-dollar limited-overs tournament.

The seventh ball dismissal of in-form Nathan Astle, caught behind off a lifter from Nuwan Zoysa, never allowed New Zealand to settle in.

Zoysa also removed Craig McMillan for six, hooking down fine-leg's throat, before Chris Nevin and skipper Stephen Fleming added 55 for the third wicket.

The partnership prospered till all hell broke loose when Muralitharan came on to bowl in the 16th over.

The wily bowler grabbed two

wickets off his first 13 deliveries without conceding a run and then added one more victim in his fourth over as the Kiwis slipped from 86-2 to 99-5.

Fleming, who made 34, attempted to cut and found the ball go straight to Russel Arnold in the lone slip region.

Muralitharan was taken off after a six-over spell in which he took three wickets for six runs, allowing the Kiwis to breathe easier.

Matthew Sinclair and Chris Harris put on 56 for the sixth wicket, before Muralitharan came on again to remove both batsmen in successive overs.

Sinclair, who made 28, attempted an ambitious reverse sweep and only managed to hole out to Kumar Sangakkara at short third man.

Harris was caught at slip by Arnold after making 33, which

reduced New Zealand to 159-7 in the 42nd over.

SCOREBOARD

First innings scoreboard in the Sharjah Cup one-day international between New Zealand and Sri Lanka on Tuesday:

NEW ZEALAND

Nevin	csub (Dilshan) b M'tharan	45
Astle	c Kaluwitharana b Zoysa	1
McMillan	c Vaas b Zoysa	6
Fleming	c Arnold b M'tharan	34
M'tharan	c Vaas b M'tharan	2
Harris	c Arnold b M'tharan	33
Sinclair	c Sangakkara b M'tharan	28
Oram	not out	46
Franklin	c Jayasuriya b Buddhika	9
Tuffly	not out	1
Extras:	(lb-7, w-4, nb-2)	13
Total:	(For 8 wickets in 50 overs)	218
Fall of wickets:	1-6, 2-31, 3-86, 4-92, 5-99, 6-155, 7-159, 8-197	

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Vaas	6	0	43	0
Zoysa	7	0	37	2
Arnold	7	0	40	0
M'tharan	10	3	9	5
Chandana	10	0	32	0
Jayasuriya	7	0	31	0
Buddhika	3	0	19	1

SRI LANKA: Sanath Jayasuriya, Marvan Atapattu, Kumar Sangakkara, Mahela Jayawardena, Russel Arnold, Romesh Kaluwitharana, Muttiah Muralitharan, Chaminda Vaas, Charitha Buddhika, Nuwan Zoysa, Upul Chandana.

Umpires: Russel Tiffin (Zimbabwe) and Srinivas Venkatraghvan (India).