DHAKA TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 24, 2002, E-MAIL: dssports@gononet.com

The Ranji Trophy for national cricket championship in India is named after K S Ranjitsinhji, an England cricketer of Indian



### **ESPN**

**English Premiership** Highlights at 11:00 am Western Union World Football Football Magazine

4:00 pm Football Focus Football Magazine 7:30 pm

Sportscenter Hindi Sports News Live at 8:30 pm

Chelsea vs Fulham

English Premiership Repeat at 9:30 pm **UEFA Champions League** Bayer Leverkusen vs Man United Live at 12:30 am (Wednesday) Barcelona vs Galatasarav Same day delayed at 3:00 am

### **STAR Sports**

Best of Harsha Online Cricket Talk Show Repeat at 8:30 am & 2:30 pm Arsenal vs Bolton Wanderers English Premiership Repeat at 12:30 pm Futbol Mundial Football Magazine 3:30 pm Trans World Sport International Sports News 5:00 pm Sportsline Toniaht



Sports News

Live at 8:00 pm



### Jacques Kallis

(Star South African all-rounder) "We have been to the subcontinent many times and we know how the wickets behave -- we have got the ability to win here."

About his country's prospects in the ongoing ICC Champions Trophy.



Tick the correct answers, post to The Haily Star

Win attractive prizes Competition closes at 8 pm Sept 27, 2002 and draw

shortly afterwards

Who will lead the Bangladesh U-17 team in the tri-nations

	series in Sir Lanka?			
	Nafis	Ashraful	Ashiqur	
2.		was the r		
England and India Test series?				

2-1 1-1 3. Who won the US Open singles

Agassi Hewitt Sampras Trophy hockey champs?

4. Who became Champions Germany | Pakistan | Netherlands 5. Who clinched the Grand Prix

Reefat | Zia

Class..... Roll No..... School Address . . . . . . . . . . .

# Heading for disaster?

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

Disaster is destined to follow as the Bangladesh cricket team leaves Colombo today for Johannesburg to play their maiden Test series against South Africa.

After crashing out of the ICC Champions Trophy Championship with two heavy defeats against world champions Australia and New Zealand, Khaled Mashud's men will first fly to Dubai, where four fresh players will join the battered side.

The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) included Sanwar Hossain, Hannan Sarker, Rofiqul Islam and Anwar Hossain Munir when it announced a 15-man squad for the tour on Saturday.

The Board also dropped Mohammad Ashraful. The youngest centurion on debut in the history of Test cricket has failed to falter since his famous hundred against Sri Lanka in the Asian Test Championship last year.

The young right-hander will return home along with off-spinner Fahim Muntasir and middle-order batsman Mazharul Haq.

But the policy of frequently chopping and changing the squad with every tournament or series is hardly helping to lift the national

team, whose performance is deteriorating each time Bangladesh were bowled out for

only 77 runs in 19.3 overs against New Zealand at the Sinhalese Sports Club ground on Monday.

It was however not that they just avoided improving on their lowestever one-day score --76 against Sri Lanka last month -- but in the manner the batsmen fared against a quality seam attack on a docile

While other teams in the 12nation tournament have found scoring very easy in Sri Lanka, the international newcomers managed to score only 206 runs in two pool

The first two deliveries of Kiwi paceman Shane Bond exposed Bangladesh's fragile technique

FIXTURE				
Match	Venue			
Sep 27	One-day match v NFO XI Randjesfontein			
Sep29	One-day match v Country DistrictsNelspruit			
Oct 1	One-day match v South Africa 'A' Soweto			
Oct 3	1st ODI Potchefstroom (D/N)			
Oct 6	2nd ODIBenoni			
Oct 9	3rd ODIKimberley (D/N)			
Oct 12-15	4-day match v Country DistrictsBedford			
	1st TestEast London 2nd TestPotchefstroom			

against fast moving deliveries. Javed Omar, a veteran of 20 ODIs, opted to shoulder arms off the very first ball without assessing its direction and was lucky not be trapped leg before it hit above his

knee role. He ran a leg by. Al-Shahriar copied his opening partner like a blind man and Sri Lankan umpire Asoka de Silva had no hesitation in ruling him out.

The six other batsmen who offered simple catching practice to the waiting slip fielders, showed little application or footwork at this level.

Observers felt if this was the situation on a flat wicket in Sri Lanka, then the prospect of Bangladesh on the lively tracks in South Africa and against an allseam attack led by Shaun Pollock and Allan Donald is anybody's Coach Mohsin, under fire at

home since taking over from Australian Trevor Chappell in May this year, has now little time to lick his wounds when Bangladesh will play two Tests and three one-day matches against the home side BANGLADESH: Khaled Mashud

(captain), Habibul Bashar, Al-Shahriar, Tushar Imran, Khaled Mahmud, Monjurul Islam, Talha Jubair, Mohammed Rafique, Taposh Baishya, Javed Omar Belim, Hannan Sarker, Sanwar Hossain, Rofiqul Islam and Anwar

## Fleming not flying

MICC CHAMPIONS TROPHY SRI LANKA 2002

AFP, Colombo

New Zealand skipper Stephen Fleming said Monday he was not fully satisfied with his team's performance despite crushing Bangladesh by 167 runs in the ICC Champions Trophy cricket tourna-

"The win was convincing statistically, but not in all areas," said Fleming after leading his side to a big victory in an inconsequential match at the Sinhalese Sports Club ground.

Bangladesh were shot out for their second-lowest total of 77 chasing a 245-run target.

Defending champions New Zealand were already out of the reckoning after losing to Australia in their opening match.

semi-finals of the 12-nation tourna-"Our batting was tentative

South Africa have made it to the

Australia, India, Sri Lanka and

(against Bangladesh)," said the New Zealand captain. "Our one-day batting is like that, starting with me. It is reluctant to kick on and get a big score. We are

getting partnerships of 60s or 70s

only and creating a lot of pressure on guys down the order." The highest stand in the New Zealand innings was of 66 for the second wicket between Matthew Sinclair (70) and Fleming (31), Scott Styris (26) and Chris Harris (26) also

could not cash in on good starts. "We have to convert 30s or 40s into big scores. Other teams have guys in the top order getting 100s. It helps in chasing or setting targets,"

said Fleming. The New Zealand captain conceded his team's performance in a crucial game against Australia was

much below the mark. "We are disappointed with the Australian game." he said. "We were not really there in that game. It was a tough game against Australia first up. We wanted to play well, and

could not do it this time. "You have got to absorb pres-

sure. If you don't absorb pressure, you are not going to be there in the game. They have the ability to apply pressure in batting and bowling. 'You have got to be on song from

the first ball. If you go behind, it is very hard to catch up with them. The key to success against them is to be in the game and competing. Fleming said the victory would

help his team on next year's tour of

"We have finished on a much

better note," he said. "The bowling and catching were very good today. We have been working out a few things, like playing spinners, and getting used to the conditions. "When we come back here next

year, we will be better prepared." Bangladeshi captain Khaled Mashud said he hoped his team had learnt a lot ahead of the upcoming tour of South Africa.

"It's a learning experience for us, **SEE PAGE 15 COL 7** 



LOOKS KILLED! New Zealand fast bowler Shane Bond prepares for his next delivery against Bangladesh in the ICC Champions Trophy in Colombo yesterday. He took four wickets as the Kiwis thrashed Bangladesh by 167

## What worries Wagar?

Cricket

REUTERS, Colombo

Pakistan captain Waqar Younis says the continuing lack of international cricket in his country is a "big disaster" for players, administrators and supporters. Fear of terrorist activity has

meant only New Zealand have toured Pakistan in the past year and that trip was cut short when a bomb exploded outside their hotel in May.

The problem has meant Pakistan are now playing scheduled home matches in neutral countries, with their latest series against Australia starting early next month in Colombo before moving onto Sharjah in the United Arab **Emirates** 

The absence of touring teams going to Pakistan has also hit the Pakistan Cricket Board hard through a resultant lack of potentially lucrative sponsorship deals.

While Waqar understands the reasons why teams are currently

opting not to visit his country, he said it did not make it any easier to "If the atmosphere is not right

then I don't think any team will

come." he told Reuters. "But not playing at home, it's a big disaster as far as cricket is concerned. "As far as revenue is concerned

it's a great loss for the country and for the cricket board. "The crowd back home are

missing cricket and we'd love to play but unfortunately we can't at the moment and it's a disadvantage to the team because we want to play at home and get some support and win at home," he added. Waqar also hinted at the

stresses and strains the current arrangements are placing on the players, who have become a nomadic team roaming from country to country without a base. From the Champions Trophy

and the first test against Australia in Colombo they head to Sharjah, followed by tours of Zimbabwe and South Africa and then the World

The hectic schedule, allied to the

senior players Wasim Akram and Saeed Anwar opt out of the Australia series and Waqar had sympathy for that decision. "We don't really go home. I

haven't seen my parents, my wife and my kid for a while," he said. "So it does get a little bit too much occasionally. "But my wife is coming soon and

some of the guys have got their families here so hopefully it will get better," Waqar added. Pakistan signed off from the

Champions Trophy with a crushing nine-wicket win over the Netherlands, although the victory meant nothing in terms of the com-Waqar hoped the win would be a turning point for his side after recent

poor results, even though it came against a side playing only its seventh match in senior cricket. On Saturday, Pakistan announced the squad for Australia series and Richard Pybus was confirmed as coach, returning for a

fourth time, after the sacking of



Balloons fly over the Athletes' Village of the 14th Asian Games in Busan yesterday, during its formal opening and the hoisting of flags of the 44 participating countries. A total of 9,900 athletes and officials will stay in the Village until October 17. The Village can accommodate a maximum of 14,000 people in 20 apartment buildings.

# North reach South



AFP, Busan

North Korea's Asian Games athletes arrived here Monday under heavy security for the communist state's first appearance at an international sporting event in rival South Korea.

The arrival of the North's team was the latest development of rapprochement resumed on the Korean peninsula, the world's last Cold War frontier.

"We are one nation on the same blood, land and language with which culture and history has long been in full bloom," read a statement issued to South Koreans by the North's delegation who arrived at the Gimhae airport, north of Busan, on a special Air Korvo plane at noon (0300 GMT).

The rivals, North and South Korea, are to jointly march at the opening ceremony of the Asiad, which will run from September 29 through October 14. Earlier, the North Korean flag

was hoisted for the first time in public in the South during a ceremony to open the Games village.

Tight security was provided to the North Koreans from the airport

police forming human barricades to protect the northerners around the airport terminal Walking out of the airport, North

to the village, with some 600 riot

Korean athletes in red ties and black suits carrying communist national flags on the chest waved to dozens of South Korean welcomers holding "unified Korea" flags with the blue image of the entire Korean peninsula on the white background.

"Thanks for welcoming us," Bang Mun-II, one of the North's head delegates, told local journalists at the airport's conference room.

The North Korean athletes included Ri Myung-Hun, who at 236 centimetres (seven feet eight inches feet) is the tallest basketball player in the North. North Korea has promised to send a 655-strong delegation for the

Asiad, which will be held in Busan in southern South Korea The North's participation in an international event in South Korea is the first since their separation in

It boycotted the 1986 Seoul Asian Games, 1988 Seoul Olympics and the 2002 World Cup jointly hosted by South Korea and Japan.

The Busan Asian Games Organizing Committee (BAGOC) opened the athletes' village by hoisting the flags of 43 countries, including North Korea's, Monday.

Monday's breakthrough highlights a thaw on the divided Korean peninsula following the North's new drive to improve ties with South Korea, Japan and other countries.

Both Koreas are still technically at war after their 1950-53 conflict. North Korean flags have been banned in South Korea since the birth of the communist regime in the

North in 1948. The North's second batch of 152 athletes is to fly to the South on Friday with 355 supporters due on

Saturday. The North is determined to regain its reputation as an Asian sports powerhouse, with the help of its lengendary athletes, including women's judo champion Kye Sun-Hui and weightlifter Ri Song-Hui in

the 58 kilogram. Kye conquered the seemingly unbeatable Ryoko Tamura of Japan in the 48-kilogram category while Ri narrowly missed winning the gold in the 2000 Sydney Olympics.

Other North Korean medal hopefuls included Choi Un-Sim (women's weightlifting, 48 kilogram), Ri Kyong-Ok (women's judo, 49 kilogram) and marathoners Ham Pong-Sil and Kim Chang-Ok. North Korea has traditionally

outperformed other Asian countries

at women's shooting, gymnastics

and women's football

## **Old-towners** relegated

**SPORTS REPORTER** 

Victoria Sporting Club, riding on a brilliant hattrick from striker Abul, pulled themselves out of demotion threat when they registered a comprehensive 5-1 win over Farashganj Sporting Club in their last relegation league match of the National Bank Premier Football League with at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

The winners led the first half 2-1. Abul struck in the second, 10th and 76th minutes of the match to complete the third hattrick of the league after Mohammedan striker Nakib and Abahani forward Bulbul.

Sharif and Manik added the other two goals in the 56th and 66th minutes to celebrate their biggest win in the league.

Amirul pulled one back for Farashganj in the 36th minute.

The outcome of yesterday's match confirmed the demotion of Rahmatganj Muslim Friends Society to First Division next year along with fellow old-towners Farashganj, who finished at the bottom of the five-team relegation league table with only three points.

Victoria raised their tally to 17

points from 13 matches and joined

Brothers Union and Badda Jagarani atop the table. Rahmatgani have 13 points with a match in hand. And even if they win against Badda today they would earn maximum 16 points, still one point less than those who already ensured their stay in the top flight. It was otherwise a disappointing performance for Rahmatganj who

finished third in the elite league last

year. Out of 12 matches, they recorded three outright wins and two tie-break wins against six The relegation league would

conclude today with the match SEE PAGE 15 COL 8

### Bangladesh draw in Thailand

**SPORTS REPORTER** 

Bangladesh yesterday drew with Bangkok Tobacco Club 1-1 in their lone practice match in Thailand ahead of the 14th Asian Games.

According a telephonic message last evening, Bangladesh forward Rokonuzzaman Kanchan struck in the 87th minute while Tobacco Club levelled the margin after just one

Tobacco Club is the third team in

the Bangkok league. leave Bangkok for Busan, South Korea today to take part in the 25nation football tournament. They would face India in their opening first round match in Ulsan on September 27, two day before the Games

### Platinum Jubilee enter semis

officially opens on September 29.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Platinum Jubilee Jute Mills moved into the Meghna Cement 14th DSA Cup football Tournament semifinals with a 2-1 win over Cosmos Eleven in the first quarterfinal held at the

Khulna Stadium yesterday. After a barren first half, Ripon scored twice for the winners in the 72nd and 75th minutes while Cosmos pulled one back from a penalty shot at the stroke of the final

first fifteen overs they were very

England lost in-form Marcus

Trescothick (nought) and Hussain

(one) for just seven runs in the

## Streak injured in road mishap

AFP, Colombo

Zimbabwe skipper Heath Streak suffered a suspected fractured shoulder in a road accident in the Sri Lankan capital of Colombo on Monday, a police source told AFP.

Streak was travelling in a three-

wheel taxi that collided with a van at

Colombo's fashionable Cinnamon Gardens area, police said. "The three-wheel taxi overturned and Streak had to be rushed to the

Apollo private hospital," the source A member of the police team detailed to guard the cricketers said that Streak had left his hotel without

notifying the bodyguards deployed to

protect visiting players.

"We provide security for the entire team, but in this case he had left the hotel without informing our people," a police official at the team hotel, Taj Samudra said. Indian-made three-wheel taxis

offer an unsteady ride, but they are a popular mode of transport because of lower fares. They also contribute to a high percentage of fatal accidents on Sri

Lankan roads and there have been

calls to ban them being imported.

## SRI LANKA 2002

AFP. Colombo

England skipper Nasser Hussain said Sunday his team needed to show more character in pressure situations in order to win crucial matches against strong teams.

ing an eight-wicket defeat against India in a vital league game here. Both India and England required a victory to qualify for the semifinals after having beaten Zimbabwe in their opening match of the three-

team Group B. India surpassed England's total of 269-7 with 10.3 overs to spare in the day-night match, with openers Virender Sehwag (126) and skipper Saurav Ganguly (117 not out) scoring quickfire centuries.

We need to show more character in situations like this," said

"Both the openers came at us strongly and we didn't have an answer. We're alright when teams don't quite come at us as strongly as were very difficult for our batsmen this and we'll have to work out ways

The England skipper conceded that nothing had worked for his team in the big game, saying they were outclassed by a better side.

Nasser's call to get tougher

"India just played exceptionally well. Sometimes you just have to give credit where it's due," he said.



### "We've played against India a lot

and have studied their game carefully. We know what areas they do most of their hitting and have thought of a few ways to restrict that.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4



"It just didn't work today though The first eight overs they bowled

and again when they batted their

from a shaky start to post a decent England were struggling at 7-2 before being rallied by Ian Blackwell (82) and Nick Knight (50). "As far as batting is concerned

I'm quite pleased with the way we've done. In the last year or so the batting has not been a cause for worry. Even today I thought the middle order batted exceptionally to take us to 270," he said.