



## Did U Know?

India's Viswanathan Anand is currently the world's best paid chess player.



## What to Watch

### BTV & SET Max

ICC Champions Trophy  
Australia vs Sri Lanka (D/N)  
Second Semifinal  
Live at 2:30 pm

### ESPN

English Premier Football League  
Fulham vs Chelsea  
Repeat at 6:00 pm

### Sportscentre Hindi

Sport News  
Live at 8:30 pm

### STAR Sports

English Premier Football League  
Fulham vs Chelsea  
Repeat at 12:30 pm

### STAR Sports

English Premier Football League  
Fulham vs Chelsea  
Repeat at 6:00 pm

### Sportsline Tonight

Sport News  
Live at 8:00 pm

### Cricket Programming

Super Selector  
Repeat at 10:00 pm

### Cricket Programming

New Zealand vs Pakistan  
Fourth ODI  
Highlights  
Repeat at 11:00 pm



## Talk Turkey



### Nasser Hussain

(England cricket captain)  
"This is the most positive England side I have captained and Duncan Fletcher is the best coach I have played under."

### Star WHIZZ KID COMPETITION 180

Tick the correct answers, post to  
**The Daily 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 Sri Lanka?  
Nafis Ashraf Ashiqur
- What was the result of the England and India Test series?  
2-0 2-1 1-1
- Who won the US Open singles title?  
Agassi Hewitt Sampras
- Who became Champions Trophy hockey champs?  
Germany Pakistan Netherlands
- Who clinched the Grand Prix chess title?  
Reefat Zia Rajib

Name .....

Class .....

School Address .....

Phone: (If any) .....

## Bangladesh-India clash today

14th Asian Games  
**BUSAN 2002**

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh will take on arch-rivals India in the opening Group C match of the football competition of the 14th Asian Games at the Munsu Football Stadium in Ulsan, South Korea today.

The clash of the two South Asian neighbours will kick off at 4pm Bangladesh time.

Although both teams stand little chance of making it to the next round let alone win the gold medal, the match however will be more of a fight for sub-continental supremacy.

Bangladesh will take inspiration from their lone goal victory against their bitter rivals in the semifinal of the SAF Games which they went on to win in Katmandu in 1999. But India are leading statistics in head-to-head meetings. The last time the two teams met was in a four-nation tournament in Maldives two years ago that ended in a 1-1 draw.

Preparation-wise the two sides are like chalk and cheese. India have gone about their preparation for the big event in fine style. They started training two months ago under British coach Stephen Constantine. India won their last practice match against defending Asian Games champions Uzbekistan 2-0 in Delhi on Monday before heading for South Korea. Star striker Baichung Bhutia scored both the goals. The improving Indians also won a six-nation international tournament in Vietnam recently.

Bangladesh on the other hand

didn't practice at all. Austrian coach George Kottan got the squad together only the day before they flew off to Bangkok on September 20. Kottan was eager to start the training at least fifteen days before the squad was scheduled to leave Dhaka and wanted to play as many practice matches as possible before the Asian Games but the Dhaka Premier League clubs refused to release their players for the national camp in the middle of the League, which ended on September 19. The only preparation Bangladesh had was a training match against Bangkok Tobacco Club (1-1) in the Thai capital on September 23 before the team left for Busan on Thursday. Bangladesh will take on World Cup finalists China in their second match in Masan on September 30 while their last match against Turkmenistan will be held at Busan Stadium on October 3. China, smarting under their disappointing World Cup campaign, are more than certain to win their

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## Mashud's men open SA tour today

UNB, Dhaka

The Bangladesh cricket team opens its tough South Africa tour with a limited-overs match against the NFO XI at Randjesfontein today.

The 15-member squad led by Khaled Mashud flew to South Africa after taking part in the ICC Champions Trophy in Sri Lanka. The tourists will play two more one-day warm-up games and as well as a four-day match during their month-long tour.

The first Test begins on October 18 in East London. The second and final Test is on October 25 in Potchefstroom.

## Chalantika relegated

UNB, Dhaka

Mirpur Chalantika SC will play in the Second Division next season after going down 2-0 to Sadharan Bima KS in a First Division relegation league match at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Ripon and Monir scored in the 61st and 80th minute. Bima collected 20 points from 13 matches while Chalantika SC managed only 15 points from the same number of outings.

East End Club also find themselves in the danger zone. They are on 12 points from 12 matches.

## Mashrafee called up

UNB, Dhaka

The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) has called five injured national pace bowlers to take part in a rehabilitation camp.

They are Masrafee bin Mortaza Kowshik, Tareq Aziz, Mushfiqur Rahman, Mohammed Sharif and Hasibul Hossain.

The bowlers have been asked to report to ex-national coach Sarwar

## Murali the only worry?

ICC CHAMPIONS TROPHY  
SRI LANKA 2002

REUTERS, Colombo

Australia have no special plans to deal with Sri Lankan off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan in their ICC Champions Trophy semifinal, Australian captain Ricky Ponting has said.

Ponting told reporters it was down to each individual batsman to

decide how to combat Sri Lanka's leading Test and one-day wicket-taker on Friday on a pitch expected to help the spinners.

"Murali's a world-class bowler and he's probably not only the hardest to score runs off but also their wicket-taker through the middle period of an innings," Ponting said.

"But it will be down to individuals to work out a game-plan to play him and that will vary from player to player."

"We've not made too much fuss

and we'll prepare as we always prepare with a meeting today and I'm sure some stuff will come up then."

Ponting had some success against Muralitharan on Australia's tour of Sri Lanka in 1999, scoring 253 Test runs at 84.33 including 105 not out at the Sinhalese Sports Club.

But he said he was not the only player in the world champions' team to have seen a fair amount of the off-spinner.

"A lot of the guys in the squad now were on that tour and we've spoken a lot about how to play Murali in the past," he said.

"We've all watched a lot on TV and how England have handled him in Tests and one-dayers but everyone will have their individual plans."

"Some guys will have differing plans and styles of play and I'm sure you'll see those different styles tomorrow," he added.

Ponting admitted the battle between Australia's batsmen and the Sri Lankan spinners could be crucial.

"How we play their slower bowlers will probably determine the outcome of the game," he said.

But despite the key role spin is likely to play, Ponting said Australia would be unlikely to pick off-spinner Nathan Hauritz as a third slow bowler alongside leg-spinner Shane Warne and slow left-armers Darren Lehmann.

"The idea of three spinners has been thrown up but it's probably unlikely," he conceded. "It will be hard to change the side as it's performed so well over the past few weeks."

"We've got the part-time spinners like Darren Lehmann and Michael Bevan if required and I'd think Sri Lanka would rather play spin that the quicks anyway."

Those quicker bowlers -- Glenn McGrath, Jason Gillespie and Brett Lee -- have been highly effective in the early stages of the tournament, as well as in the recent triangular series against Pakistan and Kenya.

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PHOTO: AFP  
Sri Lanka's Russel Arnold (L) and Muttiah Muralitharan watch their mates practise at the Premadasa Stadium in Colombo yesterday.

## Final batch leaves

UNB, Dhaka

The second and last batch of Bangladesh contingent left yesterday for the Busan Asian Games to be held from September 29-October 14.

Chef de mission Major General Rezakul Haider is leading the 83 athletes and officials.

## DSA Cup soccer

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Ulka Club entered the semifinals of the Meghna Cement 14th DSA Cup Football Tournament yesterday. They defeated Khulna Shipyard 4-2 in the tie-breaker at the Khulna Stadium yesterday.

Brothers Union play Platinum Jubilee Jute Mills Club in the first semifinal today



PHOTO: STAR  
Bangladesh shooters (L-R) Shoabuzzaman, Sabrina Sultana, Suraiya Akhtar, Fouzia Karim, Asif Hossain and Anwaruzzaman at the National Shooting Complex prior to their departure for the Asian Games yesterday.

## Ngam pace against BD

Cricket

REUTERS, Cape Town

Fast bowler Mfuneke Ngam has been named in South Africa's 14-man squad to play Bangladesh in the first two of three one-day internationals next month.

Ngam has suffered a series of career-threatening injuries since last appearing for South Africa against Sri Lanka in January 2001. His inclusion in the squad is subject to his fitness after a domestic match against Eastern Province this weekend.

Although he has played three Tests, Ngam has yet to play in a limited-overs international.

"We are managing Ngam," convenor of selectors Omar Henry told Reuters. "We are monitoring each outing and making sure he

does not burn himself out considering all his injury problems. If he comes through the domestic game then we will give him a chance against Bangladesh."

Henry also said South Africa's most capped one-day player Jonty Rhodes was being rested to allow him to recover fully from a hand injury and to spend time with his family.

"Jonty has been struggling with a bruised hand since Morocco so we have rested him. We're happy with him and he's a family man so rest for him means we get back a good cricketer and a sound mind. He'll be happy and we'll be happy," Henry said.

There was a first-time inclusion in the full South African squad for Northerns batsman Martin van Jaarsveld.

Wicketkeeper-batsman Errol Stewart of Kwazulu-Natal, who

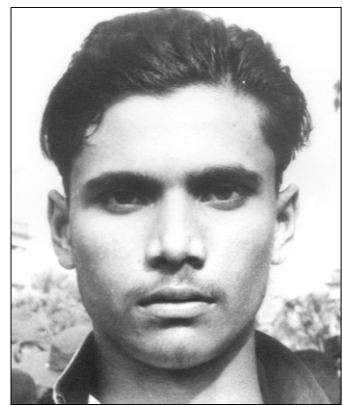
played the last of his five one-day internationals against Australia in 1994, was also included in the 14.

Alan Dawson and Nicky Boje, who both played for South Africa in this month's Champions Trophy, were not considered because of injury.

South Africa play Bangladesh in Potchefstroom on October 3 and in Benoni on October 6. The third and final one-day international is in Kimberley on October 9.

## SQUAD

Shaun Pollock (captain), Mark Boucher (vice captain), Dale Benkenstein, Boeta Dippenaar, Allan Donald, Herschelle Gibbs, Jacques Kallis, Lance Klusener, Mfuneke Ngam, Makghaya Ntini, Justin Ontong, Graeme Smith, Errol Stewart, Martin van Jaarsveld.



MASRAFEE BIN MORTAZA

Imran at the Bangladesh Cricket Board Gulshan office on Sunday at 5pm.

Imran Sarwar and physiotherapist Azmol Ahmed will conduct the two-week special camp at the BKSP.

## Archaeology JU football champs

JU CORRESPONDENT

Department of Archaeology became champions in the Inter-department Football Championship of Jahangirnagar University at the University Central playground yesterday.

They defeated Government and Politics 2-0 in the 70-minute final. Mamun put the archaeologists in front in the 13th minute while his teammate Jasim added the other goal in the 48th minute.

JU Vice-Chancellor Prof Jasim Uddin Ahmad later distributed prizes among the winners.

As many as 24 teams took part in the competition which began in the first week of this month.

## Khulna Div II football

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

The National Bank Second Division Football League kicks off today. Moshumi Eleven play New Ekota Club in the opening match at the Khulna Stadium.

Eighteen teams are taking part in the league that is being sponsored by the National Bank Limited for the first time here.

## Siraj football

CU CORRESPONDENT

Defending champions Madarbarai Muthakantha Club reached the final of the Siraj Mahanagari Kishore Football League with an exciting 2-0 tiebreak win against Eden Star Club in the second semifinal at the Dampara Police Lines ground on Wednesday.

Madarbarai custodian Mohammad Moinul Haq pulled off five brilliant saves in the shootout after the normal time ended goalless.

## The change has worked

Cricket

REUTERS, Colombo

Australia fast bowler Brett Lee believes his new role in one-day cricket under new captain Ricky Ponting has made him more effective.

Under former captain Steve Waugh, Lee was encouraged to bowl as fast as he could since he boasted one of the best strike-rates in history.

But by the time Ponting took charge in March for the tour of South Africa, Lee also had an economy rate nudging five runs per over.

That figure was too high for the new captain -- who said so publicly -- and Lee has responded with net practice that has yielded greater control while not reducing his pace or effectiveness.

"I took it as constructive criticism," Lee told Reuters on Wednesday during a break in preparations for Friday's Champions Trophy semi-final against Sri Lanka.

"I knew there were things I had to work on and I think I've done that."

"In the past I've just run in and tried to bowl as fast as I can, and not worrying about the outcome, and that's when I tended to bowl at my best."

"That might still be the way to go in Tests but Ricky (Ponting) expected different things, we sat down and from a team point of view I knew what I had to do."

"Now I'm still there to take wickets and I'm not holding back on the pace because that is my main asset. I've been working hard in the

rate of almost two wickets a game. But perhaps more importantly he only conceded 3.37 runs per over during the series.

After two matches of the Champions Trophy in Sri Lanka, Lee's career statistics stand at 82 wickets from 45 matches with an economy rate heading in the right direction at 4.79 runs per over.

But his new-found control will come under it's toughest test yet on Friday when he comes up against Sri Lanka, with their destructive opening batsman Sanath Jayasuriya always capable of ruing a bowler's figures.

"I've never played against Sri Lanka but I hope Jason (Gillespie) or Glenn (McGrath) knock him out."

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PHOTO: STAR  
The Asian Games-bound Bangladesh hockey team.

## READERS' ZONE

### How could they?

Do you have any observation regarding sports and its management in Bangladesh? Do you feel certain issues need to be addressed before time runs out? Then, hurry up and send us your burning questions, critical views and thoughtful suggestions not in excess of 400 words. Let your thought buzz at your corner, the Readers' zone.

---Sports Editor

It was gathered from the website of ESPN Star Sports that neither popular channel would be providing coverage of Bangladesh's tour of South Africa. Yet, we pay no less than 500 taka for cable channels i.e. pay channels.

The ESPN channel can easily broadcast Bangladesh's tour live this October as they only have Australia's tour of Pakistan to telecast live. Also, there is no timing conflict as might

have been the case in other tours of Bangladesh.

So, there is no choice for Bangladesh, unless the Bangladesh Cricket Board pressurises ESPN Star Sports to show the tour by telling them that they would cancel their contract with ESPN Star Sports for Bangladesh's home series.

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PHOTO: STAR  
Enamul Hossain ponders his next move against Shabana Parvin during their first round engagement of the Shah Altaf Associate FIDE Rating Chess Tournament yesterday.

## Shah Altaf Chess

SPORTS REPORTER

Shah Altaf Associate FIDE Rating Chess Tournament began at the Bangladesh Chess Federation Auditorium yesterday.

In the first round, Grand Master Ziaur Rahman beat Jamal, fellow GM Niaz Mursheed beat Shah Alam, International Master Reefat-bin-Sattar beat Reza, IM Enamul Hossain Rajib beat Shabana Parveen Nipa, Taibur Rahman beat Shamsul, Amin beat Mahbub, Enayet beat Shakil, Robin beat Maleq, Kajal beat Ejaz, Dilu beat Parag, Emon beat Mostafa, Lavlu beat Zaker, International Women's Master Rani Hamid beat Bably, Monir beat Zakia Sultana, Monjur beat Humayun and Shafiq beat Sanjoy.

But there also draws for Aminul against IM Abdullah-Al-Rakib, Khandakar Kayes with Pollab and Pollash versus Sohel.

However Nasir lost to the advanced computer programme Fritz 7.

The event is being held to help prepare the players for the Chess Olympiad, which will be held at Bled in Slovenia from October 25 to November 11.

The second round starts today at 10 am. The winner is expected to collect 50,000 in cash.