



Did U Know?

Tests have been played over a period of 3, 4, 5 or 6 days. But there has been a Test match with a longer duration. The 5th Test between South Africa and England at Durban in 1938-39 lasted till tea on the 10th day!



Talk Turkey



Ian Healy
(Former Australia wicketkeeper)
"They've got to just lower all their expectations. They're not going to beat this Australian side and I don't think anyone will while (bowling duo Shane) Warne and (Glenn) McGrath are in the team."
While counting England out of the current Ashes series.



What to Watch

DD Sports & National

- India vs West Indies
Fourth ODI (D/N)
Live at 2:30 pm
- ESPN
- Western Union World Football
Taped Version at 8:30 am
- English Premier Football League
West Ham United vs Leeds United
Repeat at 9:00 am
- UEFA Champions League
Ajax vs Inter Milan
Repeat at 2:00 pm
- Cricket Programming
Legends of Cricket
Repeat at 7:00 pm
- Sportscentre Hindi
Sport News
Live at 8:30 pm
- STAR Sports
- South Africa vs Sri Lanka
Second Test, Day One
Live at 1:55 pm
- Sportsline Tonight
Sport News
Live at 9:00 pm

Star WHIZZ KID COMPETITION 18

Tick the correct answers, post to
The Daily Star
Win attractive prizes

**Competition closes at 8 pm
Nov 22, 2002 and draw
shortly afterwards**

- Who won the 18th Federation Cup Football Tournament?
Mohammedan / Abahani / MuktiJodha
- Who clinched the Delta Life handball title?
Vijayanur / Maple Leaf / Mirpur Ideal
- West Indies defeated India in the first ODI by
4-wkts / 2-wkts / 14-runs
- Who lifted the Paris Masters Series title?
Safin / Sampras / Hewitt
- Who won the Fed Cup tennis title?

Name

Class

School Address

Phone: (if any)

Magura soccer

OUR CORRESPONDENT

Islampurpara Sporting Club beat Udayan Sporting-Club 3-2 in the Econo First Division Football at the Magura Stadium yesterday.

Barki and Gora of Islampurpara scored once each in the first half. Zahid netted a third for the

Eyes on Test hopefuls

Challenge Trophy final starts today



SPORTS REPORTER

The national selectors will be looking for one or two extraordinary performers when the Bangladesh A meet the national team in the Challenge Trophy final today.

The four-day match starts at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium at 9.30am.

Wicketkeeper-batsman Khaled Mashud will lead the seniors against Aminul Islam's second-string national side, which gained a psychological edge in a drawn game between the two teams at the same venue a week ago.

The tournament, which also involved the BCB Development Squad, offered not only the Trophy glory but also an occasion to cash in on for the Bangladesh cap hopefuls.

The selectors intend to pick the best-possible national team for the home series against the West Indies. The West Indies, now touring India, arrive Dhaka on November 26 to play three one-day internationals and two Tests.

There are a few candidates in the Bangladesh A team desperate to get back into the Test fold.

A team captain Aminul Islam, his long-time peer Akram Khan and Minhazul Abedin are out to prove that their waning reflexes and stiff muscles are still a match for any of the younger generation players.

Mohammad Ashraf, the youngest centurion in Test cricket, is also looking confident to get back his place in the national team after being dropped from the South Africa tour.

The strategy to have a right-arm orthodox off-spinner in the team against a predominantly left-handed West Indies lineup may influence the selectors' thought. If that happens, either former national captain Naimur Rahman or Fahim Muntasir will get a nod.

Bangladesh's Pakistani coach Mohsin Kamal has made two changes in his side that won the four-day match against the Development squad inside three days.

Opener Javed Omar, who scored a century in that game, makes way for young batsman Tushar Imran.

Besides, all-rounder Alok Kapali, who was still recovering from a road accident, has been rested along with left-arm paceman Taposh Baishya.

Sarwar Imran, who is in charge of the A team, has also opted for two changes. Out of sorts opener Mehrab Hossain and middle-order batsman Hasanuzzaman were dropped. Young batsman Mazharul Haq and former national captain Naimur Rahman have replaced them.

Naem clubbed seven boundaries off the 81 balls he faced. He produced 94 runs for the first wicket with Pavel before his opening partner was unfortunately run out on 41. Pavel hit three fours in his 88-ball innings.

Earlier, put into bat, the home side were bundled out in 42.3 overs. Opener Siddharth top-scored with 27.

Medium pacer Ziaur led the BCB attack with three for 21 while Nadif



West Indies players warm up at the start of their practice session at the Sardar Patel Gujarat Stadium yesterday. The Caribbeans take on India in the fourth one-day international here today.

BCB U-17s win one-day series

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) Under-17 thrashed Cricket Association of Bengal (CAB) Under-17 by eight wickets in their third one-day match at the Eden Gardens in Kolkata, West Bengal yesterday.

Opener Naem smashed an unbeaten 57 as the visitors, chasing a paltry 120, raced home in 31.4 overs to win the three-match series against the home side 2-1.

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WI will walk out if ...



AFP, Ahmedabad

The West Indies would not hesitate to abandon Friday's fourth one-day international against India here if the safety of the players was at risk, team manager Ricky Skerritt said.

"Of course we want the remaining four matches in the series to be completed, but if the players are at risk, we will walk out again," Skerritt said ahead of the day-night match at the Motera Stadium.

The tourists lead 2-1 in the seven-match series marred by crowd trouble in all the three games played so far in Jamshedpur, Nagpur and Rajkot.

The West Indians walked off the field at Rajkot on Tuesday when Vaseb Drakes and substitute fielders Ryan Hinds and Pedro Collins were targeted with sand-filled plastic bottles.

Match referee Mike Procter of South Africa abandoned play and awarded the game to India, who were cruising at 200-1 in the 28th over chasing a victory target of 301 in 50 overs.

Procter's decision was based on India being ahead on run-rate at that stage as per the Duckworth-Lewis system used primarily for

rain-hit matches.

Security was further tightened for Friday's match here in the main city of the sensitive western state of Gujarat where some 1,000 people were killed in communal violence earlier this year.

Procter held a meeting with senior police and cricket officers on Thursday in which it was decided that every spectator entering the stadium would be frisked.

"We will not allow spectators to carry anything inside the ground that could be used as missiles to hit the players," a police officer said.

"Among the 2,000 security personnel who will be on duty, many plain-clothed policemen will be seated in the stands to identify miscreants."

With tensions running high in Gujarat ahead of next month's state elections, officials are leaving nothing to chance.

Though Rajkot is only a two-hour bus drive away from Ahmedabad, both teams were transported by air to Bombay on Tuesday evening and flew in to Ahmedabad late on Wednesday night.

Meanwhile, Procter's unprecedented decision to declare India winners at Rajkot — the first time a host team has been awarded a crowd-marred match — has stirred a heated debate.

Former West Indian great

Michael Holding, here as a television commentator, said such a decision would encourage crowds to create trouble when it found the hosts were ahead on run-rate.

"Very shortly, spectators will be seen going into the one-day venues with computers with the Duckworth-Lewis formula in hand and constantly keeping in touch with the proceedings," Holding wrote in his column.

"Whenever their team is in front, they will just throw a few missiles, get the game called off and their team ends up the winners."

Procter defended his decision saying he did not want to penalise players for the actions of unruly crowds.

"India made a fantastic start. They deserved to win. They were ahead (on run-rate)," the former South African all-rounder said.

The International Cricket Council (ICC), the sport's world governing body, has threatened to ban unruly venues from holding matches.

The Ahmedabad crowds will be on trial. In a Test match here in 1987, Pakistan captain Imran Khan ordered his fielders to wear helmets after objects were hurled at them on the field.

The last three internationals will be played in Baroda, also in Gujarat

SAFF ch'ship Kanan named nat'l team manager



SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) yesterday appointed former national goalkeeper and Badda Jagarani coach Sayeed Hasan Kanan as the manager of Bangladesh team for the forthcoming Third South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) Championship to be held in Dhaka from January 10.

The decision came after a marathon meeting of the BFF executive committee at the Bangabandhu National Stadium last evening.

It was also decided in the meeting that BFF member Shawkat Ali Khan Jahangir will act as team leader of Bangladesh team in the seven-nation championship.

To organise the SAFF Championship successfully, the BFF formed a 36-member advisory committee with Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman as the chief advisor. Besides, the meeting also decided to form an 85-member Organising Committee with State Minister for Youth and Sports Fazlur Rahman as its chairman.

Bangladesh Olympic Association secretary general and BFF vice-president Zafar Imam was named as

the member secretary of the Advisory Committee while Badal Roy, the assistant general secretary of BFF, will be the member secretary of the organising committee. 14 sub-committees were also formed yesterday for smooth holding of the SAFF Championship. BFF president SA Sultan will head the committee that will coordinate between the different bodies.

Meanwhile, Hafizur Rahman Tipu and Saleh Zaman Selim have been named manager and assistant manager of the Bangladesh under-14 team which will take part in the Asian football festival in Nepal next month.

Hierro out for a month

AFP, Madrid

Real Madrid captain and central defender Fernando Hierro will be out for a month after badly twisting his right ankle, club medical staff said on Wednesday.

The 35-year-old Hierro had to leave the pitch after just half an hour of Tuesday night's 1-1 Champions League Group C draw at Belgian club Genk.

Hierro's injury is badly timed as the European champions only have one other top class player in that position in Ivan Helguera and they meet Spanish League leaders Real Sociedad on Sunday and arch-rivals Barcelona the following Saturday at the Nou Camp.

Real coach Vicente Del Bosque will have to play a less experienced player alongside Helguera, probably 22-year-old Francisco Pavon.

Hierro, top scorer for Spain and who has the highest number of caps for an outfield player, retired from international football after the 2002 World Cup finals in Asia to concentrate on his club career.

Second Test from today Gibbs to return, Atapattu leads SL



AFP, Centurion

Opening batsman Herschelle Gibbs was set to return to the South African team for the second and final Test against an injury-hit Sri Lanka starting at Centurion Park here on Friday.

Gibbs, who was a late withdrawal from the first Test in Johannesburg after suffering a back spasm shortly before the start of play, took a full part in the South African team net practice Wednesday.

He did not have a scheduled fitness test but physiotherapist Shane Jabbar said he would be assessed Thursday to see whether Wednesday's exertions have had any effect.

Sri Lanka, meanwhile, were reeling from the loss of captain Sanath Jayasuriya with a right ankle ligament injury.

It was confirmed Wednesday that Jayasuriya would be out of the Test and has been told he should rest for two weeks, which means he could be struggling to be declared fit for the first of five one-day internationals, starting on November 27.

Star off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan, meanwhile, will play in the Test but will miss the one-day games in order to return home for treatment, which could include surgery, for a groin problem.

Stand-in captain Marvan Atapattu faces a huge challenge if he is to turn around the fortunes of a side that was beaten by an innings and 64 runs inside three days in the first Test.

No Sri Lankan batsman could make a half-century against a disciplined South African pace attack, with Atapattu's 43 in the second innings the highest score for the tourists. Sri Lanka's bowlers were largely ineffective, too.

Muralitharan, who has taken 433

wickets in 77 Tests, did not pose his usual threat on a hard, bouncy Wanderers pitch in the first Test and his figures of three for 83 were flattered by the dismissal of two tailenders.

Jehan Mubarak, 21, who made his Test debut against Bangladesh earlier this year, is likely to replace fellow left-hander Jayasuriya.

Mubarak could open the batting following the double failure of Russel Arnold at the Wanderers, with Arnold dropping down to bolster the middle order.

Centurion normally favours fast bowlers although conditions are unlikely to be as bowler-friendly as they were at the Wanderers.

The South Africans will have a

replacement for Gibbs in Johannesburg, was named in a South African squad of 13 but is the man most likely to fall out if Gibbs plays.

South Africa go into the match after three successive innings wins, with the rout of Sri Lanka in the first Test following two crushing victories over Bangladesh.

TEAMS
SOUTH AFRICA (from): Shaun Pollock (captain), Graeme Smith, Herschelle Gibbs, Gary Kirsten, Jacques Kallis, Ashwell Prince, Neil McKenzie, Martin van Jaarsveld, Mark Boucher, Andrew Hall, Steve Elworthy, Claude Henderson, Makhaya Ntini.

SRI LANKA (from): Marvan Atapattu (captain), Russel Arnold, Kumar Sangakkara, Mahela Jayawardene, Hashan Tillakaratne, Jehan Mubarak, Hasantha Fernando, Chaminda Vaas, Dilhara Fernando, Muttiah Muralitharan, Ruchira Perera, Sujewa de Silva, Chamila Gamage, Thiina Thushara, Tharanga Lakshitha, Prasanna Jayawardene.
Umpires: Daryl Harper (Australia) and Russell Tiffin (Zimbabwe).

Dhaka Div final today

BSS, Dhaka

Narayanganj meet Tangail in the final of the Dhaka Divisional Commissioner Gold Cup Football Tournament at Tangail Stadium today.

State Minister for Labour and Employment M Lutfur Rahman Khan will be present in the final as the chief guest while president of the Bangladesh Football Federation SA Sultan and M Abu Solaiman Chowdhury, the commissioner of Dhaka Division and president of DDSA, will be the special guests.



Star India opener Virender Sehwag (2nd from L) caresses a boy who is a victim of communal violence in Gujarat early this year, while teammate VVS Laxman looks on during a campaign for communal harmony in Ahmedabad yesterday. Team member Sanjay Bangar is on the left.

One-tier nat'l cricket league

SPORTS REPORTER

The fourth National Cricket League will be played on single league basis instead of the two-tier home and away match format.

Shah Nurul Kabir Shaheen, a member of the BCB advisory council and in-charge of local leagues and tournaments, revealed this yesterday through a media release.

All the three previous editions were played on the home and away match format. The National League, involving Six Divisions will start from the last week of this month.

Six teams will play a four-day and a limited-overs match against each other and the top finishers will be declared champions.

The divisions have also been asked to take necessary preparations for the league. Divisions that have a prepared venue already are asked to apply to BCB by November 20.

Shoaib issue PCB taking its time

AFP, Karachi

The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) said Thursday it was waiting for a team manager's report on accusations of ball-tampering against fast bowler Shoaib Akhtar in Zimbabwe before taking action.

"The team management has conveyed the incident to us but we have asked the team manager in Zimbabwe, Brigadier Khawaja Mohammad Nasir, to submit a detailed report before taking the matter further," PCB spokesman Samiul Hasan told this news agency.

Akhtar was found guilty in a disciplinary hearing at the Harare Sports Club on Tuesday evening of ball-tampering in the first Test against Zimbabwe.

He was severely reprimanded for ball-tampering by former West Indies captain Clive Lloyd in his capacity as match referee for the tour of Zimbabwe.

"We have reason to believe that the offence was of minor magnitude because history suggest that players involved in ball tampering have been severely punished and Akhtar has been reprimanded only," PCB's Hasan said.

Akhtar took seven wickets in the match which Pakistan won by 119 runs.

Pakistan's current captain Waqar Younis is the only bowler who was suspended for tampering with the ball in international cricket, during a match against Sri Lanka in 2000, while another Pakistani Azhar Mahmood was fined 50 per cent of his match fee for the same offence in the same series.

Zimbabwe drop Guy, Blessing

REUTERS, Harare

Zimbabwe have dropped all-rounders Guy Whittall and Blessing Mahwire from the team to play Pakistan in the second Test starting in Bulawayo on Saturday.

Batsman Mark Vermeulen and all-rounder Muleki Nkala were named by the Zimbabwe Cricket Union on Wednesday in the side that will attempt to square the two-match series.

Pakistan won the first Test by 119 runs with a day to spare in Harare on Tuesday.

Whittall scored seven and two in his innings but bowled tightly in returning match figures of one for 106 from 36 overs. Mahwire, who made his debut in Harare, was out for four and three, and took two for 118 from 28 overs in the match.

SQUAD
Dion Ebrahim, Mark Vermeulen, Hamilton Masakadza, Alistair Campbell (captain), Grant Flower, Andy Flower, Tendata Taibu, Andy Blygnaut, Muleki Nkala, Ray Price, Henry Olonga.

Donald the motivator

REUTERS, Centurion

South African coach Eric Simons has used semi-retired fast bowler Allan Donald to help motivate his side as they prepare for the second Test against Sri Lanka at Centurion Park.

"Allan remains a great fast bowler and he always lifts the spirits of the squad," Simons said after practice on Wednesday. "His experience means he can help batsmen and bowlers and his general level of enthusiasm is a pleasure to have around."

Donald retired from Test cricket earlier this year after a series of frustrating injuries but is still available to play one day cricket and hopes to end his career at the World Cup on home soil next February and March.