

## Batting bites

SPORTS REPORTER



GrameenPhone  
Test Series 2002  
Bangladesh vs South Africa

Another Test series finished with another clean sweep for the opposing team and Bangladesh were left wondering yet again why their batsmen never

deliver. Although a defeat in the second and final Test was not unexpected, the manner in which the home side collapsed in both their innings' is sure to incite the detractors who question Bangladesh's eligibility as a Test playing nation.

But new Bangladesh captain Khaled Mahmud believes that overall it was not all that bad a performance barring the stunning batting debacle on the third day that saw the home side losing 18 wickets.

"I think we have done better in the series considering our disappointing show in the World Cup. We played reasonably well in the TVS Cup. Besides, the top-order fared better in the first Test at Chittagong," said Mahmud while

reflecting on his team's showing in the triangular tournament and the two-match Test series.

Mahmud, who took over from Khaled Mashud after the World Cup, also said that the return of Habibur Bashar among the runs was one of the big positives from the series.

Bashar scored a half-century against India in the TVS Cup before making back-to-back fifties in the Chittagong Test. The country's top batsman was also involved in two very good partnerships with opener Javed Omar who also showed character.

"But apart from them the rest failed," acknowledged Mahmud adding that the team didn't bat as a unit.

"That was our problem. We couldn't manage to build on the good work of Bashar and Omar," said Mahmud.

While Mahmud was critical of the failure of the middle-order, coach Sarwar Imran went further to question the commitment of the players.

"I think the mental makeup of the players is negative. They feel

happy to score 30 or 40 runs. If you look at the second innings of this Test most of the batsmen were out after settling down in the middle. And in most cases they suffered soft dismissals," Imran said.

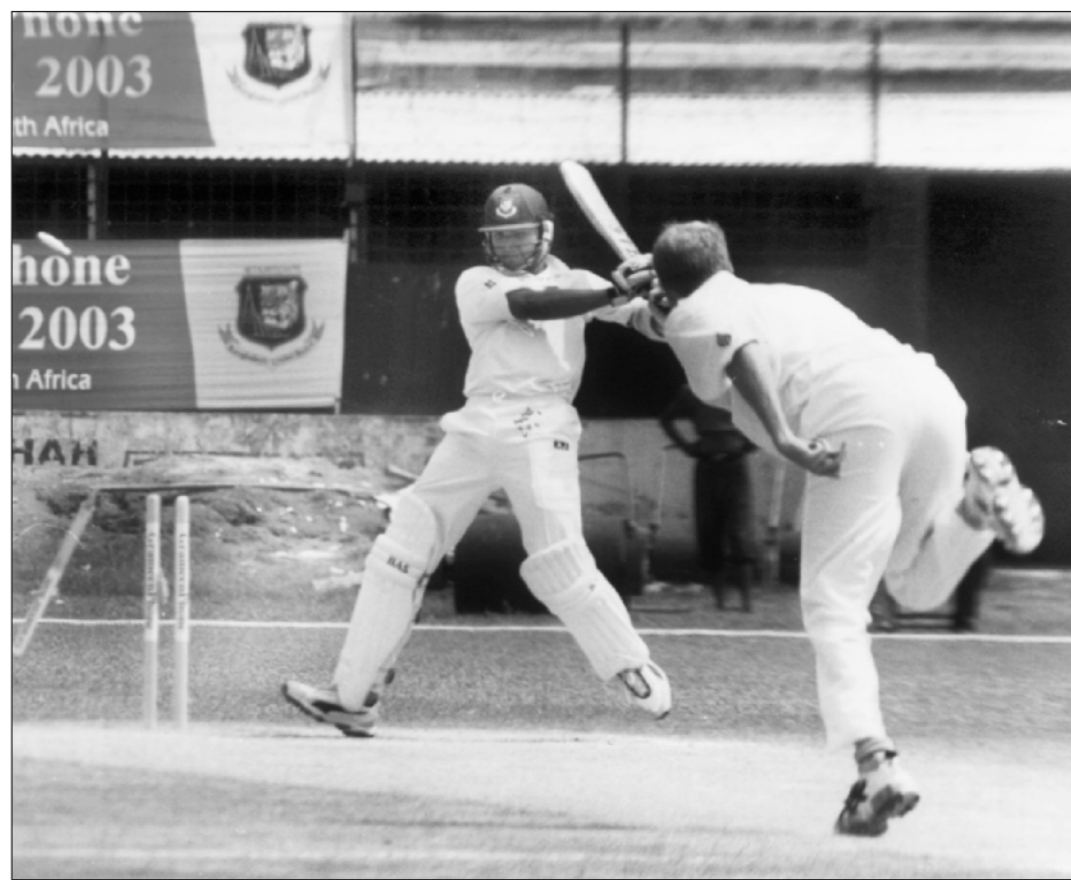
He also blamed the players for their lack of ability to carry an innings.

Imran however refused to agree with the notion that Bangladesh has not improved since attaining the Test status in 2000.

"I think we are also improving like the others. Maybe the other teams are improving faster than Bangladesh," said Imran after his last assignment as interim coach.

Bangladesh have signed high profile coach Dav Whatmore, who will take over the national team before Bangladesh's next series away against Australia in July.

Whatmore will make a brief visit to Dhaka next week before getting down to business from June 1. The national cricketers will enjoy a two-week rest before the selectors announce a fresh list of probabilities for the tour of Australia later this month.



THAT'S IT! Shaun Pollock sends Mashrafe-bin-Mortuza's off stump flying to end the Bangladesh innings and complete victory yesterday.



RUDOLPH RULES: Man-of-the-series Jacques Rudolph with his cheque of 2,000 dollars yesterday.



### Did U Know?

Football became an official Olympic sport at the 1908 Games in London; it was in effect the first world football championship. With the exception of Egypt, who played at the 1920 Games, this was an exclusively European affair until 1924 when the South American teams took part. England and Denmark set the early pace contesting two Finals (1908 and 1912).



### What to WATCH

- TEN Sports**  
Sri Lanka vs New Zealand  
Second Test, Day Three  
Live at 10:30 am
- ESPN**  
Primera Liga  
Real Sociedad vs Sevilla  
Same Day Delayed at 3:30 pm
- West Indies vs Australia**  
Third Test, Day Five  
Live at 8:00 pm
- Sportscentre Hindi**  
Sport News  
Live at 10:05 pm
- STAR Sports**  
Sportsline Tonight  
Sport News  
Live at 8:00 pm
- Primera Liga**  
Deportivo vs Recreativo  
Repeat at 8:30 pm



### TALK TURKEY



### Steve Waugh

(Australia Test Captain)  
"Not much, really. It's nice but I haven't thought about it at all."  
After crossing Sunil Gavaskar to become the second highest run scorer in Tests.

### Jaffer shines for Bombay

REUTERS, Bombay

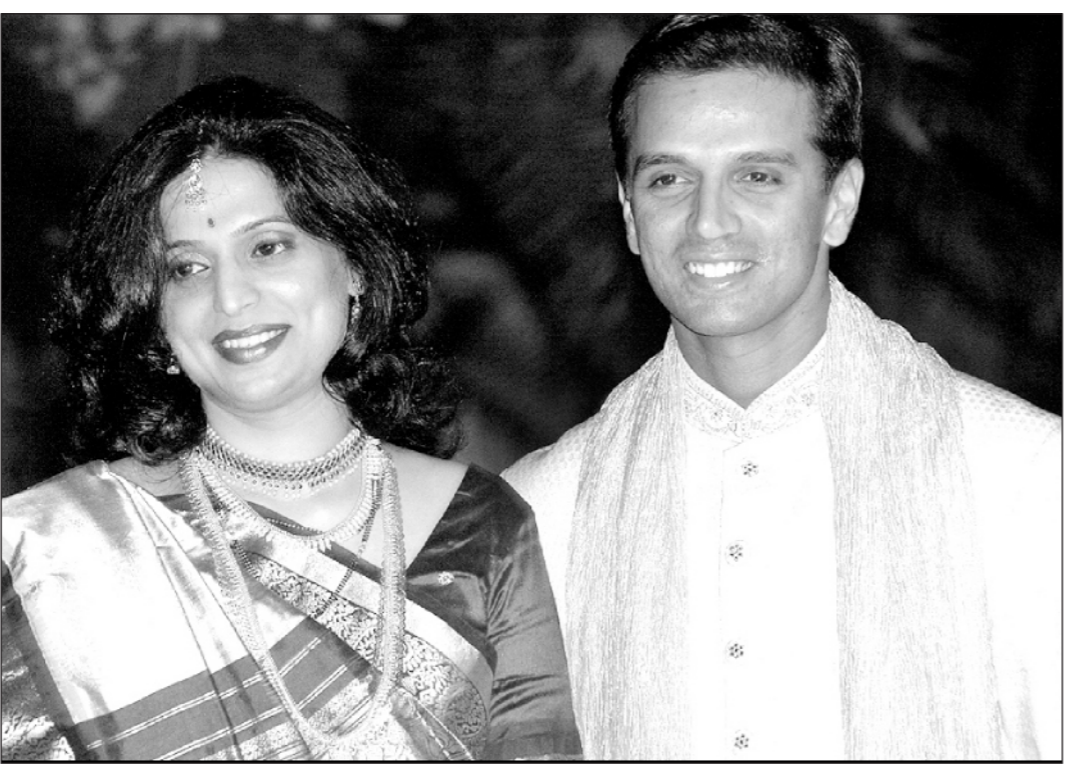
Opener Wasim Jaffer made a fluent 83 to help Bombay reach 259 for nine against Tamil Nadu at the close on Day One of India's Ranji Trophy final on Sunday.

Jaffer, who played the last of his seven Tests in England last year, struck 14 fours in his 154-ball knock to justify captain Paras M h a m b r e y ' s

## BANGLADESH IN TESTS

SPORTS REPORTER

- Following is Bangladesh's Test-by-Test record. (Under versus, date and result):
1. Vs India Nov 2000 (Dhaka) Result: India won by 9 wickets
  2. Vs Zimbabwe April 2001 (Harare) Result: Zimbabwe won by an innings and 32 runs
  3. Vs Zimbabwe April 2001 (Bulawayo) Result: Zimbabwe won by 8 wickets
  4. Vs Pakistan Sep 2001 (Multan) Result: Pakistan won by an innings and 264 runs
  5. Vs Sri Lanka Sep 2001 (SSC, Colombo) Result: Sri Lanka won by an innings and 137 runs
  6. Vs Zimbabwe Nov 2001 (Dhaka) Result: Match drawn
  7. Vs Zimbabwe Nov 2001 (Chittagong) Result: Zimbabwe won by 8 wickets
  8. Vs New Zealand Dec 2001 (Hamilton) Result: New Zealand won by an innings and 52 runs
  9. Vs New Zealand Dec 2001 (Wellington) Result: New Zealand won by an innings and 74 runs
  10. Vs Pakistan Jan 2002 (Dhaka) Result: Pakistan won by an innings and 178 runs
  11. Vs Pakistan Jan 2002 (Chittagong) Result: Pakistan won by an innings and 169 runs
  12. Vs Sri Lanka Jul 2002 (P Sara, Colombo) Result: Sri Lanka won by an innings and 196 runs
  13. Vs Sri Lanka Jul 2002 (SSC, Colombo) Result: Sri Lanka won by 288 runs
  14. Vs South Africa Oct 2002 (East London) Result: South Africa won by an innings and 107 runs
  15. Vs South Africa Oct 2002 (Potchefstroom) Result: South Africa won by an innings and 160 runs
  16. Vs West Indies Dec 2002 (Dhaka) Result: West Indies won by an innings and 310 runs
  17. Vs West Indies Dec 2002 (Chittagong) Result: West Indies won by 7 wickets
  18. Vs South Africa April 2003 (Chittagong) Result: South Africa won by an innings and 60 runs



THE FALL OF THE WALL! Star Indian batsman Rahul Dravid with his bride Vijeeta Pendharkar after their wedding ceremony in Bangalore yesterday.

## Aussies dictate terms

Cricket

AFP, Bridgetown

Australia were poised to seize a match-winning innings lead after grabbing the coveted wicket of stricken Brian Lara late on the third day of the third Test at Kensington Oval here on Saturday.

Lara left his sick bed and came in at number eight to try and get the West Indies past the follow-on, but he was out controversially five overs from stumps for 14.

Young wicketkeeper Carlton Baugh was caught bat-pad four balls from the end to leave the West Indies 291 for eight and still 314 runs behind Australia's mammoth first innings declaration of 605 for nine with two days remaining.

The West Indies have to score another 115 runs with two wickets left to avoid being sent into bat again on a backbreaking docile pitch.

The Australian bowlers toiled all day to break down the West Indies resistance on the unresponsive wicket, while Lara stayed in his hotel room resting from a high temperature and reports of suspected chicken pox.

greeted by a huge roar from the home crowd and he resisted the Australian attack for almost 80 minutes and 55 balls before he fell to a dubious leg before decision given quickly by Indian umpire

The home team then suffered another body blow when Baugh prodded forward to Stuart MacGill and popped a catch to Ricky Ponting close in at bat-pad to be out for 24 in 104 minutes.

Gillespie was Australia's bowling star with the impressive figures of 3-31 off 21 overs with nine maidens, while MacGill, getting prodigious turn off the dead track, claimed 2-95 off 31.2 overs.

Glenn McGrath, the 422-Test wicket campaigner and who has snared Lara's wicket 13 times in 18 previous Tests, went wicketless throughout Saturday, but was economical all the same with 0-25 off 18 overs.

Australia have already retained the Frank Worrell Trophy after wins in the opening two Tests and a victory here will ensure they take over from South Africa at the top of the ICC Test Championship.

The lifeless wicket made it torrid going for batsmen and bowlers but the Australians made a double-wicket breakthrough before tea to get a crack at the middle order.

They grabbed the key wickets of Daren Ganga and Shivnarine Chanderpaul to have the home side 210 for four at tea.

Lara had a life on nine when Ponting put down a hot two-handed chance at second slip off Jason Gillespie.

Srinivas Venkataraghavan. Andy Bichel's low skidding delivery appeared on television replays to take an inside edge off his bat on to his back pad, but to his astonishment Lara was given out.

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## Naimur spins MSC in front

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

Off-spinner Naimur Rahman spun Mohammedan Sporting Club to a valuable first innings lead against Brothers Union in the GrameenPhone Premier Cricket Super League yesterday.

On the third day at the Fatullah Cricket Stadium, Naimur captured 7-64 to dismiss Brothers for 204 in their first innings. The former Bangladesh skipper was well-supported by left-arm spinner Arif who took three wickets for 41 runs.

Mohammedan, who on Saturday declared their first innings on 294-8, extended their lead to 290 going into the final day. By the close the popular Motijheel club had reached 200-4.

Tushar Imran was batting on 56 while captain Minhazul Abedin was undefeated on 16.

The only resistance offered by Brothers Union came from skipper Halim Shah with 68 while opener Sanjay (37) was the other notable run-getter.

At the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium, Abahani, who resumed the day on 225 for seven in 58 overs, piled up a huge 361 against Uttara Sporting Club before being all out in 97.2 overs.

Nuruzzaman (62) and Suja Irfan (63) hit half-centuries to help their team cross the 300-run mark. In reply, Uttara were 161 for five in

56 overs at stumps.

### SCOREBOARD

Scorecards on the third day of the two GrameenPhone Premier Cricket League matches played at different venues yesterday:

#### Mohammedan vs Brothers Union Venue: FCS

**MOHAMMEDAN SC:** First innings 294 declared (Nafees 70, Sandeep 70, Tushar 50, Mustadir 4-42).

**BROTHERS UNION:** First innings (overnight 24 for no loss in 5 overs)

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Mosaddek lbw b Naimur	12			
Sanjay b Naimur	37			
Shahriar c Jashim b Arif	26			
Salauddin st Anwar b Naimur	12			
Halim Shah st Anwar b Arif	68			
Mustakim c Arif b Naimur	9			
Mustadir lbw b Naimur	0			
Shahnawaz c & b Naimur	20			
Imon c Naimur b Arif	7			
Sohel b Naimur	2			
Mehdi not out	0			
Extras: (b-1, lb-8, nb-2)	11			
Total: (All out in 57.2 overs)	204			

Fall of wickets: 1-56, 2-59, 3-85, 3-99, 5-116, 6-116, 7-160, 8-197, 9-200.

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Ashiq	8	3	17	0
Sandeep	4	0	22	0
Naimur	21	3	64	7
Hasibul	10	0	26	0

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## B'DESH-S AFRICA SCOREBOARD

Final scoreboard on the fourth day of the GrameenPhone second and final cricket Test between Bangladesh and South Africa at the Bangabandhu National Stadium on Sunday:

**SOUTH AFRICA:** First innings 330 all out in 113.2 overs (M Boucher 71, J Rudolph 71, R Peterson 61, S Pollock 41; M Rafique 6-77, M Ashraf 2-42)

**BANGLADESH:** First innings 102 all out in 35.5 overs (K Mahmud 20, M Ashraf 15; M Ntini 3-32, A Dawson 2-20, S Pollock 2-21, R Peterson 2-22)

#### BANGLADESH: Second innings (following-on)

Batsman	R	M	B	4	6
Javed Omar c S Pollock b P Adams	27	109	73	4	0
Mehrab Hossain run out (B Dippenaar/M Boucher)	14	103	68	2	0
Habibul Bashar c M Boucher b R Peterson	33	123	90	3	0
Mohammad Ashraf c S Pollock b R Peterson	23	73	77	4	0
Akram Khan c J Rudolph b M Ntini	23	21	23	5	0
Alok Kapali c M Ntini b A Dawson	23	52	50	2	0
Khaled Mahmud c sub (A Hall) b R Peterson	0	7	6	0	0
Mohammad Salim c G Smith b S Pollock	26	71	68	2	0
Mohammad Rafique c M Boucher b P Adams	18	21	20	2	1
Tapas Baishya not out	8	27	25	1	0
Mashrafe-bin-Mortuza b S Pollock	4	2	3	1	0
Extras: (b-5, w-1, nb-5)	11				
Total: (For 8 wickets in 80 overs)	210				

Fall of wickets: 1-46 (Mehrab), 2-46 (Omar), 3-93 (Ashraf), 4-119 (Akram), 5-131 (Bashar), 6-139 (Mahmud), 7-163 (Kapali), 8-190 (Rafique), 9-206 (Salim), 10-210 (Bin-Mortuza)

Bowler	O	M	R	W
S Pollock	8	1	21	2
M Ntini	12	2	37	1
R Peterson	27	13	46	3
A Dawson	10	5	12	1
P Adams	19	3	70	2
G Smith	7	0	19	0

Result: South Africa won by an innings and 18 runs and clinch the series 2-0.

Man-of-the-match: Mohammad Rafique.

Man-of-the-series: Jacques Rudolph.

Toss: South Africa  
Umpires: Billy Bowden (New Zealand) and Steve Bucknor (West Indies)

## Latif's call

REUTERS, Karachi

Pakistan captain Rashid Latif called on Sunday for an early resumption of Tests between Pakistan and India.

Latif, 34, told a news conference that the players were keen to start playing against each other once again in their own countries.

"I just think somebody has to take the initiative and if Pakistan needs to go and play in India or at a neutral venue to break the ice we should do it," Latif said.

"I think the people in both countries and also the players want to see Indo-Pak matches on a regular basis. These matches are something very special for the players and the people."

Latif was speaking amid signs of a thaw in relations between nuclear-armed rivals Pakistan and India.

The presidents of the Pakistan and Indian Boards met in Dubai on Saturday at the Asian cricket foundation (AFC) meeting to break the deadlock arising out of the Indian government's refusal to sanction matches with Pakistan.

Tauqir Zia and Jagmohan Dalmiya said after the meeting they were positive signals that permission would come but did not give a deadline.

Pakistan pulled out of the Asia Cup in Sri Lanka last month after the Indian government refused its team permission to play a scheduled Test series in Pakistan in protest at Islamabad's alleged support of militancy in Kashmir.

But Zia has said that Pakistan are willing to consider playing India at a neutral venue and even in the Asia Cup if New Delhi sanctions ties.

Pakistan and India last met in a Test series in early 1999 when Pakistan toured India despite threats from Hindu militants.

## Lanka gain upper hand

Cricket

AFP, Kandy

Sri Lanka ripped through New Zealand's top order when play finally got underway in the rain-ravaged second and final cricket Test here on Sunday.

Left-arm seamer Chaminda Vaas grabbed two wickets and new ball partner Prabath Nissanka one as the Kiwis slumped to 11-3 after electing to take first strike when the match started after tea on the second day.

But the brief spell of play lasted only 34 overs as bad light drove the players off the Asgiriya stadium and dark clouds overhead threatened to curtail play further over the next three days.

There was, however, enough time for Mark Richardson and Scott Styris to launch a rescue act as the Kiwis closed the day at 75-4.

The pair defied the ball that skidded low after pitching to add 60 valuable runs for the fourth wicket.

Styris hit five boundaries in an aggressive 32 before he was unlucky to be given out caught at silly point off Muttiah

Muralitharan. Television replays showed the ball miss the bat.

Left-handed opener Richardson saw off the day with 32 not out, while Jacob Oram had yet to score.

The entire first day's play was lost on Saturday while a slushy outfield caused by heavy seasonal rains wiped away the first two sessions of the second day.

But there was plenty of excitement for home fans when play began.

Vaas struck with the first ball of his second over when he had Matthew Horne edging a low catch to wicketkeeper Romesh Kaluwatharana.

New Zealand captain Stephen Fleming, who returned unconquered with a career-best 274 and 69 in the drawn first Test in Colombo last week, failed to score when he was trapped leg-before by Nissanka in the next over.

Mathew Sinclair padded up to a swinging delivery from Vaas and was declared leg-before as the Kiwis found their batting strength decimated by the seventh over.

Styris and Richardson dug in to deny Sri Lanka further success till Styris' unfortunate dismissal till before close.

The sun shone brightly since morning and even though the wicket and the square were dry, wet patches in the outfield forced umpires Daryl Harper and Simon Taufel to delay the start.

During May, the rains usually hit Kandy late in the afternoon after a sunny start to the day. The clouds were slowly building even as play began.



New Zealand opener Mark Richardson looks behind to see the ball on the second day of the second and final Test against Sri Lanka at Kandy yesterday.