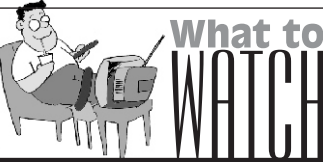




## Did U Know?

The match between South Africa and England at Durban in 1938-39 was played over 10 days. It was the longest first-class match ever played.



### BTV

Nitol-Tata National Football League  
Mohammedan SC vs Arambagh KS  
Live at 4:00 pm

### ESPN

England vs South Africa  
NatWest Series Final  
Highlights  
Repeat at 8:30 am  
Western Union World Football  
Repeat at 4:00 pm  
West Indies vs Sri Lanka  
Second Test, Day Three  
Repeat at 4:30 pm

### STAR Sports

Formula One World Championship  
British Grand Prix  
Live at 8:00 pm



### Rashid Latif

(Pakistan cricket captain)  
"We have certain loopholes within the format and the laws of matches, which have resulted in the birth of something that I would call 'Fancy Fixing.'"



Tick the correct answers, post to

### The Daily Star

Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm  
July 25, 2003 and draw  
shortly afterwards

1. Who clinched the Premier Division Hockey League title?  
BDR Wari Eskaton

2. Who became Confederation Cup champions?  
France Cameroon Brazil

3. Who won the Wimbledon women's singles crown?  
Serena Venus Clijsters

4. Which country will host the Asia Youth Cup cricket tournament?  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

## Ctg handball

### CU CORRESPONDENT

Kazem Ali High School and Chittagong Police Institution won their respective matches in the Igloo Mahanagari School Handball League at Dampara Police Lines ground on Friday.

Kazem Ali High won defeating BEPZA Public High School 8-3. Meanwhile, in the girl's division, Chittagong Police Institution won outplayed BEPZA Public High School 7-1.



PHOTO: AFP

KEEP THIS SMILE UP: Two unbeaten Bangladesh batsmen, Hannan Sarker (L) and Habibul Bashar, leave the Marrara Oval at close of the second day's play in the first Test against Australia in Darwin yesterday.

## School soccer South Banashree, Khilgaon High in final round

UNB, Dhaka

South Banashree Model High School and Khilgaon High School reached the final round of the Dhaka Metropolis inter-school football tournament at the Basabo Club ground yesterday.

Earlier, eight teams -- Naba-kumar Institute, Rahmatullah Model High School, Dhaka Residen-tial Model School, Government Laboratory High School, Blue Bird Academy, Kamarpara High School, Matuail Multilateral High School and Dolairpar High School qualified for the final round.

In the day's matches, South

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## School kabadi

UNB, Dhaka

Ansars & VDP High School and Maniknagar Model High School moved into the semifinals of the Dhaka Metropolis school kabadi competition at the outer stadium yesterday.

Dolairpar High School and Alhaj Jafar Bapari High School earlier confirmed their semifinal berths.

In the semifinals Dolairpar will face Maniknagar Model while Ansar VDP High will play Alhaj Jafar Bapari High.

In the day's matches, Maniknagar Model High earned a 67-30 victory against Bhasantek High School.

Ansars & VDP High brought down Shaheed Nabi High 44-11.

In other matches of the day, Khilgaon Staffquarter High School beat Bramanchiron Govt. Primary School 24-20 while Millat High School defeated Birsrestha Noor Mohammed Rifles Public School 38-28 at the same venue.

## Sports awards to be given today

UNB, Dhaka

National Sports Award for the years 2001 and 2002 will be distributed at the Osmany Memorial auditorium today.

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia will distribute the country's most prestigious awards to 33 sportsmen and sports personnel -- 18 for 2001 and 15 for 2002.

The award carries a gold medal, cash Tk 20,000 and a certificate.

The recipients of the award for the year 2001 are: Grand Master Ziaur Rahman (chess), Kabir Ahmed, Mohammad Kaikobad and Zahirul Haq (football), Begum Rawshan Ara Chhabi, Altaf Hossain and Shah Alam (athletics), Prapat Shankar Hazra and Hossain Imam

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# Mukti off with a bang

## Football

IQBAL SIDDIQUEE, Sylhet

Fancied Muktijoddha Sangsad Krira Chakra launched their campaign for a maiden National Football League title with a bang, thrashing Mohammedan Sporting Club of Sirajganj 4-1 in the opening second-leg match in the Sylhet Stadium yesterday.

The all-reds entertained about twenty thousand football lovers with an attacking display of football. Striker Saifur Rahman Moni struck twice while Hasan-Al-Mamun and Arman Miah scored one goal each for Muktijoddha, who led an unheralded Sirajganj outfit 3-0 at the breather.

Rubel scored a consolation goal for Sirajganj Mohammedans four

minutes away from the long whistle.

Moni, who had a disappointing season last year, found his scoring knack hammering once in each half. The nimble forward was adjudged man-of-the-match for his double strike.

Although the match got off to a sluggish start on a dump outfield caused by heavy rain, Muktijoddha were quick to take control with the star frontline of Arman, Alfaz and Motiur Munna operating freely.

But the opening goal in the 16th minute came from an unlikely source in national right-wing back Hasan-Al-Mamun.

The overlapping defender fired the ball into the net after receiving a nice pass from Alfaz.

Moni doubled the margin in the 37th minute, but the best goal of the match came from none other

than mercurial midfielder Arman Miah, who let loose a spectacular 25-yarder just before the break.

With a three-goal cushion Muktijoddha resigned to a casual approach. But coach Shafiqul Islam Manik's men still were able to hit the fourth goal in the 64th minute with Moni stabbing home his second after being fed by Alfaz.

Although Alfaz played a part in every Muktijoddha goals, the ace marksman of the country was unable to put his name on the scoresheet.

Sirajganj Mohammedan got their only goal from a quick counter-attack when substitute Rubel blasting a left-footer past country's number one custodian Aminul.

The victory placed Muktijoddha

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PHOTO: STAR

Muktijoddha Sangsad's Alfaz (L) makes an abortive attempt to score against Mohammedan Sporting Club of Sirajganj during their National Football League encounter at the Sylhet Stadium yesterday.

# Bryant in hot water

## Basketball

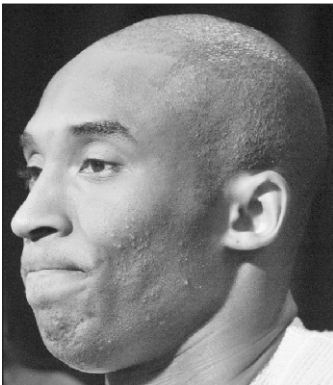
AFP, Los Angeles

Los Angeles Lakers basketball star Kobe Bryant was charged Friday with sexually assaulting a former high school cheerleader at a mountain resort where she worked.

Bryant made a surprise public appearance at a news conference here where he publicly apologised and begged for forgiveness from his young wife Vanessa just hours after the charges were filed.

He also denied sexually assaulting the teenager but admitted he had cheated on his wife, saying he had consensual sex with the woman.

The National Basketball Association star guard and his lawyers announced they would plead not guilty and vowed to fight the allegations which could net



KOBE BRYANT

Bryant a life prison sentence.

The 24-year-old American was charged with one count of forcible "sexual penetration or intrusion", Colorado District Attorney Mark

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## Lankan Tests in Darwin, Cairns

AFP, Darwin

Sri Lanka will play Tests against Australia in Darwin and Cairns next July, Cricket Australia announced here on Saturday.

The former World Cup champions will take on Australia in Darwin in the Northern Territory from July 1-5 and Cairns in north Queensland, from July 9-13 next year.

The decision follows the success of Australia's first-ever Test match this weekend against Bangladesh, during the dry season in Australia's tropical north.

"By extending Australian cricket's traditional season into the winter months, we have the opportunity to showcase the game to more people for longer periods of time," Cricket Australia chief executive James Sutherland said in a

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# Brave Tigers battle into third day

## Cricket

CHIPS MACKINOLTY from Darwin

Bloodied but unbowed, the Bangladesh Tigers yesterday proved they deserve a place in international Test cricket.

Yes, they are the underdogs and cannot conceivably win but after a fighting day in the field, they have vowed to attempt to bat out a full day against the might of the Australians on the third day of the historic first Test between the two nations.

Starting at 121-2, Bangladesh held Australia to six hours and 118 overs before the declaration at 407-7 a feat which was clearly unexpected by the Australians, with century-makers Steve Waugh and Darren Lehmann singling out Bangladeshi fielding and bowling for praise.

And a defiant 70-1 in 65 minutes opening the Tigers' second innings illustrated coach Dav Whatmore's contention all along. Bangladeshi batting will only improve if his players start believing in themselves and stop foolishly throwing their wickets aside.

"We were very pleased with the effort shown over 118 overs," he said.

"I reckon maybe against other

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PHOTO: AFP

ON FIRE: Bangladesh fast bowler Mashrafe bin-Mortuza hurls down a delivery to Australia captain Steve Waugh at the Marrara Oval yesterday.

## Ronaldinho Barcelona's

AFP, Barcelona

Paris Saint Germain's Brazilian World Cup winner Ronaldinho has joined Barcelona for about 30 million euros (33.6 million dollars) on a five-year contract, the club said on Saturday.

The final offer of Manchester United, which was lower than 30 million euros, was rejected by PSG, who, having informed Roberto Assis, the brother and agent of Ronaldinho, gave the go-ahead for the transfer.

Barcelona's website www.fcbarcelona.com said: "Ronaldinho is on his way to Barcelona and should arrive in the early evening to sort out the final details of his contract."

The statement added negotiations were done on the basis of a

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# Waugh impressed by Bangladesh

## Cricket

REUTERS, Darwin

Steve Waugh says Australia will be chasing a quick kill on the third day of the first Test with Bangladesh but says his team will have to work hard for their victory.

Australia were perfectly placed to wrap up victory inside three days after building a 310 lead on the first innings and reducing Bangladesh to 70-1 in their second innings on Saturday.

History and form suggest Australia will cruise to victory, but

Waugh said Bangladesh had impressed him with their fighting spirit.

"They can obviously play but they've got a lot to prove," Waugh said. "A lot of people have written them off and it was good to see them play well."

Waugh completed a century before declaring Australia's first innings at 407 for seven, but said it was difficult scoring freely against the Bangladeshis.

"We really had to work hard for our first 150 runs so I think you have to give Bangladesh some credit for that, they bowled and fielded pretty well," Waugh said.

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# With age he 'improves'

## Cricket

REUTERS, Darwin

Steve Waugh silenced his critics again on Saturday with a chanceless century against Bangladesh that showed he is getting better with age.

At a vintage when most players have already retired, the 38-year-old Australian captain shows no sign of slowing down.

His unbeaten 100 against Bangladesh was his 31st Test hundred and gave him a full set of centuries against every Test-playing nation, but Waugh said he still wants more.

"I'm still just trying to improve, just because you're a certain age doesn't mean you can't improve any more so for me it's about getting better," Waugh told a news conference.

"I just wanted to go out there and play well and if I don't think I can improve then I shouldn't be out there."

Waugh, now in his 18th year of Test cricket, briefly considered retiring after a lean run last season but says he has no thoughts of giving up now that he is back in form.

"I had a tough time last year but I overcame that...so I'm doing it for myself now more than anyone else," Waugh said.

"It is nice to overcome those tough times, every cricketer has them during their careers, and it's probably a little bit harder as you get older."

"But I'm just happy with the way I'm playing, I'm enjoying the game and being positive."

Waugh said he was proud of his feat of scoring a century against each of Australia's nine Test opponents but was not driven by records.

"Records and milestones will all be broken but it is still nice to achieve things, and to score a hundred against every country is something I'm proud of."

### ATAGLANCE

Factbox on Australia captain Steve Waugh who scored a century against Bangladesh on Saturday to move into joint second place on the all-time list of Test century makers.

He also becomes only the second player to score Test centuries against all nine Test-playing opponents.

Born: June 2, 1965, Sydney. Right-hand bat, occasional right-arm medium-pace bowler.

Test debut: v India, Melbourne, December 1985. Holds record for most Test match appearances with 161. 10,365 runs av 50.31. 91 wickets at 36.16.

Waugh is one of the most power

SEE PAGE 14 COL 1



PHOTO: STEPHEN CHERRY

I NEED THIS BAT: Mohammad Ashraf (C) showing the bat of Darren Lehmann to his teammates after the Australian centurion reached three figures on the second day.