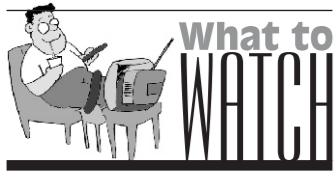




Did U Know?

Golf the only sport played on the moon - on 6 February 1971 Alan Shepard hit a golf ball.

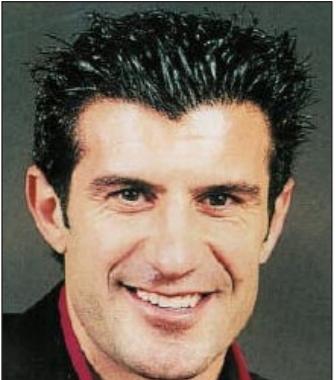


BTV
Bangladesh vs England
First Test, Day Three
Live at 9:30 am

DD Sports
TVS Cup Triangular Series
India vs New Zealand
Live at 3:00 pm

ESPN
Football Focus
Repeat at 12:30 pm
UEFA Champions League
Real Madrid vs Partizan
Repeat at 6:00 pm
Sportscentre India
Sport News
Live at 8:30 pm

STAR Sports
Bangladesh vs England
First Test, Day Three
Live at 9:30 am
Sportsline Tonight
Sport News
Live at 8:00 pm



Luis Figo
(Portuguese super star)
"I have already thought about when I will say good-bye to the national squad and that will happen after the European Championships."



Tick the correct answers, post

The Daily Star

Competition closes at 8 pm
Oct 31, 2003 and draw shortly afterwards

1. Who won the Asia Cup hockey title?
Pakistan India Malaysia

2. Who was man-of-the-series in the Bangladesh and Pakistan one-day series?
Inzamam Youharla Bashir

3. Who became the Pepsi 16th nat'l men's handball champions?
Army BDR Navy

4. Who are the European Champions League holders?
Name

.....

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (If any)

Saving the blushes

SPORTS REPORTER



Bangladesh wicket-keeper Khaled Mashud was yesterday delighted having scored his first Test half-century but the man from Rajshahi was unhappy not converting it into a hundred.

The lower-order batsman, scored 51 yesterday to rescue the home side from a top-order collapse against England at the Bangabandhu National Stadium.

The former Bangladesh captain blamed the batsmen for not staying at the crease long enough.

"None of the English bowlers were extraordinary. The wicket was very good for batting. Even I should have stayed more composed to get to my maiden hundred," said Mashud.

The gutsy cricketer was always making small but cameo contributions for the team whenever there

was a crisis.

And he believed his fifty that came after 21 Tests was another important innings.

"Our top order made some mistakes and that's why they got out. I don't want to blame them outright because it happens in cricket," said Mashud whose previous best was 44 against Australia at Cairns in July.

Coming into bat with the Tigers reeling at 72-5, Mashud grafted his way to personal glory. During the 179-minutes in the middle he hit just four boundaries.

Mashud eventually brought up his half-century with a square cut off debutant Rikki Clarke for three runs.

When asked about often getting out in the 20s and 30s, the 27-year-old said that he was aware of that tendency but he was very focused and saw an opportunity to break the jinx.

"I was very cautious today. And when I crossed the 30-mark I became more careful. I think this knock will

help me to grow in confidence," he said.

Reflecting on his dismissal Mashud said that he was deceived by a delivery that kept low.

Mohammad Rafique was the other hero for Bangladesh with a typically aggressive 32.

The southpaw entertained the big home crowd with three mighty sixes against the England spinners Ashley Giles and debutant Gareth Batty.

His hit a sweetly-timed six off Giles that sailed at least 20 yards over the mid-wicket boundary.

"Actually I play (Khaled Mashud) inspired me to play my natural game that's why I enjoyed batting after a long gap," said the left-handed batsman.

The lower-order batsman added valuable 32 runs with Mashud for the eighth wicket to get the Tigers past 200.

"I love to play big shots but hanging around has always been a difficult task for me," he the left-arm spinner.



PHOTO: STAR

THE CRISIS MAN: Bangladesh wicketkeeper Khaled Mashud sweeps fine on way to scoring his maiden Test half-century at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.



EDGY VAUGHAN: England captain Michael Vaughan goes forward and misses a Mohammad Rafique delivery during his unbeaten 31 on the second day of the first Test at the BNS yesterday.

15 mins = 3 hrs!

SPORTS REPORTER

The rain may have stayed away from the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday but it was still the talking point after Tuesday's 15-minutes show.

While local media wrote columns and columns about the devastation done on the outfield by the unusual rain on the first morning secretary of the grounds committee Rafiqul Islam said that people should consider the intensity rather than the duration.

"The rain that fell on Tuesday is usually like what happens after two to three hours of heavy showers. Normally 15 minutes of rain doesn't waterlog the BNS. So, that shows how intense it was," said Rafiqul while defending criticism.

It took nearly five-and-a-half hours for ground staff to make the outfield somewhat playable.

"There was drizzle for half an hour today but it did not cause any problems," said the ground official.

When asked about a few patches that had puddles, Rafiqul said the slope of the field was all right.

"Some parts of the field still remain flat and we are trying to improve them particularly at the VIP and eastern ends of the ground."

Rafiqul had no where to hide when asked about the non-functional drainage system.

"We need to replace it with a sophisticated one so that rain water can be instantly removed. Although it'll be a costly project but it's essential."

National cricket AIUB reach final round

SPORTS REPORTER

American International University (AIUB) confirmed their place in the final round of the Emirates 27th National Cricket Championship by beating Dhaka University by 25 runs at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium yesterday.

Opting to bat, newcomers AIUB scored 173 before being all out in 48.5 overs with Mustadir Litu making team highest 60 runs off 94 balls.

Mosharaf Hossain claimed four wickets for 21 runs and Sajal Chowdhury took three for 18.

In reply, Dhaka University were bowled out for 148 runs in 46.4 overs with Ashis Kumar scoring team highest 51 runs off 102 balls. Discarded national left-arm pacer Monjurul Islam was the most successful bowler with four for 32 runs.

Away in Chandpur, Chittagong became group champions beating Comilla by five wickets. Both teams have already booked their seats in the final round.

Nilphamari also confirmed their place in the 12-team final round with a five-wicket win over Naogaon at the Natore Stadium while Jessore reached the group final with an

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SERIES SALAD

HASAN MASOOD

John Snow has returned to Dhaka. The fiery Englishman, now 60, owns and runs a travel agency.

These days he is so consumed in his work that he has little time to talk about cricket. Many members of the Barmy Army came to Bangladesh thanks to the legendary fast bowler who claimed a brilliant 202 wickets in only 49 Tests.

When news spread of Snow's arrival at the Bangabandhu National Stadium, a group of local reporters tried to talk to him but the 1973 Wisden cricketer of the year was too busy to say anything.

Tim Lamb, the chief executive of England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB), was talking about the thorny issue that has recently gripped the

cricket world.

The tall English cricket administrator said that the issue would be discussed at the next ICC executive committee meeting in West Indies later this month.

"At the ICC meeting in West Indies the setting up of a mechanism will be discussed. I think what the ICC is trying to do is there should be consultation between the world body, the visiting Board and the home Board so that no decision is taken lightly," Lamb told The Daily Star.

"But again at the end of the day, each Board must make their own decision whether they would visit any particular country or not

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A Rover Scout band cheers the home side up during the second day's play of the first Test between Bangladesh and England yesterday.

Sami doubtful for 2nd Test

REUTERS, Lahore

Pakistan fast bowler Mohammad Sami is struggling to be fit for the second Test against South Africa starting on Friday in Faisalabad.

Pakistan manager Haroon Rasheed told Reuters on Wednesday that the 22-year-old fast bowler was suffering from a viral infection of the stomach.

"He is feeling very weak and has had problems with intake of food. He also has fever. At present we are not sure if he will be able to play in the second Test," Rasheed said.

Sami, along with fast bowler Shoaib Akhtar, played vital role in Pakistan's eight-wicket win over South Africa in the first Test. Sami played with high fever, while Akhtar limped off the field on the fourth day and was initially expected to be out for three weeks.

BD-ENG SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at stumps on the second day of the first Test between Bangladesh and England at the Bangabandhu National Stadium on Wednesday:

BANGLADESH: First innings (overnight 24-2)					
R	M	B	4	6	
Hannan Sarker b Matthew Hoggard	20	88	76	1	0
Javed Omar c Rikki Clarke b Steve Harmison	38	27	0	0	
Habibul Bashar c Maucus Trescotthick b Steve Harmison	16	10	0	0	
Rajin Saleh c Chris Read b Steve Harmison	11	54	30	1	0
Alok Kapali b Gareth Batty	28	36	32	4	0
Mushfiqur Rahman lbw b Matthew Hoggard	34	174	125	2	0
Khaled Mashud lbw b Rikki Clarke	51	188	128	4	0
Khaled Mahmud lbw b Matthew Hoggard	4	7	3	1	0
Mohammad Rafique b Steve Harmison	32	16	48	1	3
Mashrafee bin Mortaza b Steve Harmison	11	28	22	0	1
Enamul Haque jnr not out	0	6	4	0	1
Extras: (b-2, lb-3, nb-2)	7				
Total: (All out in 83.5 overs)	203				
Fall of wickets: 1-12 (Javed), 2-24 (Bashar), 3-38 (Hannan), 4-40 (Saleh), 5-72 (Kapali), 6-132 (Mushfiq), 7-148 (Mahmud), 8-182 (Mashud), 9-198 (Rafique), 10-203 (Mashrafee)					
Bowler	O	M	R	W	
Matthew Hoggard	23	6	55	3	
Steve Harmison	21.5	9	35	5	
Rikki Clarke	6	1	18	1	
Gareth Batty	21	6	43	1	

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Hussain of England

LENIN GANI

Nasser Hussain will always be known as the man who wore England on his shirt. But there comes a time when even patriotism cannot stand in the way of someone's destiny.

"However, on Tuesday morning it'll be exactly the same. There still



NASSER HUSSAIN

will be the same pressures before going out onto the field and win a Test match in difficult circumstances and in different situations.

"It's going to be pretty turgid cricket. So, how there will be different pressures as a player," he said on the eve of the first Test against Bangladesh.

Such was the relaxed nature of the man that it seemed ages before Hussain finally took his seat to answer the flurry of questions from the large group of sports writers and journalists, who had gathered at his table at the Sonargaon Hotel on Sunday morning.

Asked what he was hoping to achieve on the tour of Bangladesh now that he wasn't captain, the doughty Englishman was looking at his game and communicating better with his teammates.

"Just the normal stuff you know a

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India resume Test tie with Pakistan

Cricket

AFP, New Delhi