



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
Sportcentre India
Sport News
Live at 8:30 pm

STAR Sports

Bangladesh vs England
First Test, Day Three
Live at 9:30 am
Sportline 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	Youhana Bashar
3. Who became the 16th national men's handball champions?	Army	BDR
4. Who are the European Champions League holders?	Navy	
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 Pilot (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.



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.

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:

BD-ENG	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	3	38	27	0	0
Habibul Bashar	c Maucos Trescothick b Steve Harmison	2	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
Mashrafe bin Mortuza	b Steve Harmison	11	28	22	0	1
Enamul Haque	jnr not out	0	6	4	0	0
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 (Mashrafe)

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

SEE PAGE 14 COL 6

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.

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.

So, while the rest of the cricket world was making sense of his decision to step down after losing the first Test against South Africa, for Hussain it was like taking an enormous weight off his shoulders.

Now the Madras-born cricketer is simply adjusting to life as one of the lads as he likes to put it.

"Yeah I've always enjoyed touring and playing cricket. It's no different really. Obviously, there are some things I don't have to do and some

things I still have to do but I've enjoyed the tour so far. It's been hard work and certain pressures have been lifted from me.

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

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, now 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



NASSER HUSSAIN

SEE PAGE 14 COL 2



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

PHOTO: STAR

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-minute shower.

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 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

SEE PAGE 14 COL 8

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.

At that time he was learning about hotel facilities in Chittagong from a local tour operator since the English fans would be travelling to the port city for the second Test starting on October 29. It will also host the first of the three one-dayers.

Snow first visited here in February 1969 as a member of England team that played against Pakistan.

LAMB SPEAKS

The International Cricket Council (ICC) is trying to frame a set of rules for countries refusing to tour on security grounds.

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 Sport.

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

SEE PAGE 14 COL 5



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

PHOTO: STAR

India resume Test tie with Pakistan



AFP, New Delhi

India's cricket team is set to undertake its first Test tour of Pakistan in 14 years early next year after the government offered to restore full sporting ties between the arch-rivals.

India's Foreign Minister Yashwant Sinha Wednesday announced the long-awaited resumption of bilateral cricket matches at a press conference, saying "the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) will now be happy."

India, which last played a Test series in Pakistan in November 1989 is scheduled to take part in

three Tests and as many one-day internationals during the month-long tour in March.

"The itinerary of the tour will be finalised in consultation with the Pakistan Cricket Board," a BCCI official told this news agency.

The Indian government banned bilateral cricket matches with Pakistan after the 2000 Asia Cup due to political tensions, but allowed the teams to play in multi-nation events like the World Cup.

India played against Pakistan in the preliminary league of the World Cup in South Africa in March, a game that passed off without incident.

While India has not played a Test series in Pakistan for 14 years, Pakistan toured India for three Tests

in early 1999 despite threats from Hindu fundamentalists.

The Tests in Madras and New Delhi went off peacefully, but the third at Eden Gardens in Calcutta ended in front of an empty stadium after police were forced to clear the stands following crowd trouble.

The Indian government last month approved a series of cricket matches with Pakistan at the junior level, raising speculation that the resumption of ties at the senior level was around the corner.

An Indian under-19 team will cross the border later this month for a four-nation tournament also featuring Sri Lanka and Bangladesh. The Pakistan A team will visit India in December.

SEE PAGE 14 COL 1