

## Jewel sparks

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provide the finishing touch.  
Second half substitute Wali spoiled the easiest chance for the Dhanmondi outfit in the 83rd minute to equalize the margin but he shot straight to Mohammedan custodian Bijon after receiving the ball in the danger zone from a Hasan lob.  
Just before the long whistle Mohammedan's prolific Cameroon recruit Etigo had only Abahani's Russian defender Nicolai between himself and an open goal but could-n't get past him.  
**Yellow cards:** Bijon, Jewel, Bakhtiar and Olinga (Mohammedan), Joy and Khokon (Abahani).

**TEAMS**  
**Mohammedan SC:** Bijon, Dayland, Jewel, Faisal, Bakhtiar (Rony), Afala, Kaiser, Etigo, Olinga, Pappu and Farhad (Monju).  
**Abahani KC:** Nizam, Osomanu (Rakib), Sila, Masud Rana, Hasan, Nicolai, Joy, Parvez (Wali), Sandro, Khokon and Ujjal.  
**Referee:** Ibrahim Nessar.

## Dhaka Zone's

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(Mofazzal 38, Shahin 27, Rony 3-36, Mamun 2-17)  
AK High School: 171/1 in 29.1 overs (Hasan 62, Sabuj 38, Shahin 34)  
Result: AK High School won by nine wickets.  
Monipur High School: 172/10 in 34.5 overs (Nazmul 29, Rajibul 2-41)  
Progoti High School: 176/6 in 33.4 overs (Murad 41, Zahidul 32, Sohag 34, Nakibur 2-34, Sarwar 2-35)  
Result: Progoti High School won by four wickets.  
Rahmatullah Model: 223/4 in 35 overs (Firoz 44, Rajib 40, Motalieb 35, Mehedi 28, Arif 2-34)  
Jatrabari Power Development Board: 193/10 in 38 overs (Minar 44, Kader 40, Mahmudur 28, Shahin 6-42)  
Result: Rahmatullah Model High School won by 30 runs.

## Manikganj cricket

### OUR CORRESPONDENT

Provat Sangha defeated Victoria Club by eight wickets in the Language Martyr Rafique Memorial Cricket Tournament at the Shaheed Miraj-Tapan Stadium here yesterday.  
Victoria Club batted first and made only 121 before being all out in 28.5 overs with Utpal making 31. Anchal and Emon did the damage sharing six wickets.  
Provata Sangha replied with 122-2 in 21.5 overs.



Indian blind cricket team members pose for photographers before entering Pakistan through Wagah Border Post yesterday.

# Hi-tech Bracewell



AFP, Wellington

The New Zealand cricket team has turned to modern technology to get their message across against the touring South Africans and the hi-tech wizardry appears to be paying dividends.  
Coach John Bracewell is using a walkie-talkie to communicate with team medical staff on the boundary who onpass to boundary fielders information taken from video analysis of opposition batsmen.

Bracewell, who trialled the system in a one-day match against Pakistan last month, said he was confident it was within the rules.  
"The information's just not allowed to go on the park, you're not allowed to use walkie talkies between the players and coach," he said Wednesday, the day after New Zealand beat South Africa by five wickets.  
"It's no different to sending someone around with a message, just a more efficient way of getting

that through."  
New Zealand pacemen Daryl Tuffey and Kyle Mills bowled excellent opening spells in helpful conditions in the one-day international in Christchurch on Tuesday, with Tuffey's dismissal of key man Jacques Kallis for six, bowled



JOHN BRACEWELL

without offering a shot, aided by the technology.  
"Yesterday only two messages went out and that was about bowlers' length early on," Bracewell said.

"Daryl said he was trying to keep the ball fuller to Kallis and slightly back of a length to Graeme Smith. He'd recognised to Kallis he could go fuller and it worked out quite well."

Reuters adds, New Zealand's third one-day international against South Africa on Friday will be a benefit for victims affected by this week's floods in the country, New Zealand Cricket (NZC) have announced.

Unseasonal summer storms have lashed central New Zealand since Sunday, causing two deaths, widespread flooding and damage.

NZC will donate 3.54 dollars for every adult ticket purchased to flood relief across the region and will distribute 1000 free tickets to civil defence volunteers and evacuees.

The Wellington Stadium was under water on Tuesday but ground staff are confident Friday's match will be unaffected by the poor weather.

The six match series stands at 1-1, with South Africa winning the first match in Auckland by five wickets and New Zealand taking the second in Christchurch by the same margin.

## Nabin Mela emerge CJKS TT champs

### CU CORRESPONDENT

Nabin Mela emerged champions in the CJKS-Sinmin Mineral Water Table Tennis league that ended on Tuesday.

Nabin Mela outplayed Satadal Club 3-0 in the last match of league. City Club finished runners-up after defeating Quality Sports by the same score at the auditorium of Chittagong Jila Krira Sangstha.

Later CJKS vice-president AZM Nasiruddin gave away prizes as the chief guest.

## Magura soccer

### OUR CORRESPONDENT

Sreerampur Friends Club defeated Young Eleven Star Club 2-1 in the Econo First Division Football League at the Magura Stadium yesterday.

Shamim and Palash netted one each for the winners in the second half while

Karal scored the lone goal for the losers.

Sunrise Sporting Club will take on Mayer Doa Sporting Club today at the same venue.

## Tigers eye

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couldn't pull off a couple of victories having got ourselves into positions where we could have.

"But India and Australia are the two best sides in world cricket and the guys took a lot of confidence out of the fact that we were able to be competitive with a very young side."

Still without Wishart, who injured his knee, and Vermeulen, who had his skull fractured by a short ball, Zimbabwe will rely heavily on some big-hitting all-rounders to boost a brittle top order.

"It's important that we learn to win, and part of that is beating teams like Bangladesh," Streak added.

"They'll be asked to play under the sort of pressure we were under against India and Australia."

The two sides play back-to-back Tests followed by a five-match one-day series.

**ZIMBABWE (from):** Heath Streak (captain), Andy Blynnat, Stuart Carlisle, Dion Ebrahim, Sean Ervine, Gavin Ewing, Grant Flower, Trevor Gripper, Douglas Hondo, Blessing Mahwire, Stuart Matsikenyeri, Raymond Price, Tatenda Taibu.

# India's no to Tests in Karachi, Peshawar



REUTERS, Karachi

India have asked the Pakistan cricket board not to schedule any Test matches during their ice-breaking tour of Pakistan next month in the volatile cities of Karachi and Peshawar.

"The Indians want to restrict the length of stay of their teams in these two cities and want to play one-day internationals in Karachi and Peshawar instead of Test matches," PCB chairman Shaharyar Khan told this news agency on Tuesday.

"I have had a discussion with the Indian board president Jagmohan Dalmiya and he has asked us to see what can be done to avoid a long stay for the Indian team in both cities."

The southern port city of Karachi, which has seen repeated attacks by Islamic militants in past two years,

and Peshawar, near the Afghan border, were both avoided by South Africa and New Zealand on recent tours.

Karachi was the scene of a suicide bomb attack in May 2002 in front of the hotel where the New Zealand team was staying which killed 11 French naval engineers. New Zealand returned home after that attack without playing a scheduled Test in Karachi.

Shaharyar said the PCB was seeking government advice on the Indian request.

"It is a sensitive issue since Karachi and Peshawar are major venues, but we also have to keep in mind Indian sensitivities," he said.

"One thing is for certain though: we will have matches at both places. Whether these are Tests or ODIs will be decided by Friday."

A three-member Indian cricket board delegation returned home on Monday after a week-long visit to inspect all match venues, facilities and

security arrangements for the tour.  
The Indian government last Saturday reconfirmed that the national team would tour Pakistan for a full Test series for the first time since 1989.

They will play three Tests and five one-day internationals and a three-day warm-up match.

Shaharyar said Dalmiya had told him the Indian players had some preconceived ideas about Karachi and Peshawar because of recent events and were thus reluctant to stay long in the cities.

"The itinerary will be finalised later this week in consultation with the Indian board. But we have also asked them to understand our point of view about playing in these two cities," Shaharyar said.  
Shaharyar said that if the Indian board wanted, the PCB would be willing to provide special protection units for their senior players like Sachin Tendulkar, Rahul Dravid and Sourav Ganguly.

# Spin's crown at stake



REUTERS, London

Shane Warne heads into March as the most successful spin bowler of all time but he may well have lost that honour by the end of the month.

By then, the one man in world cricket boasting as controversial a profile as the Australian may well have deposed him.

The selectors have yet to announce whether Warne will be fast-tracked back into the world champions' squad for next month's Test tour of Sri Lanka following his one-year drugs ban.

However the irrepressible Muttiah Muralitharan, he of the crooked arm and rotating wrist, will certainly be playing in all three games, getting his hands on the ball early and refusing point blank to return it when his teammates ask for a bowl.

It would be a shame if Warne, with 491 Test wickets to Murali-tharan's 485, were to miss the three-match series at such an important time.

The two men, such complete contrasts in so many ways, share one thing at least a genius for inspiring shock and awe, affection and antipathy in equal measure. They belong on the same pitch, like the two faces of a tossed coin.

Warne is credited in large measure with saving the art of leg spin, following years of dominance by long-limbed, calypso-rhythmed pace bowlers. He has a classical action, allied to fierce spin and, at his best, extraordinary control.

His behaviour away from the square has been less appealing.

As a young larrikin, he demanded to be loved, his rebellious streak endearing rather than provocative.

His character, however, failed to keep up with his art as it rapidly evolved and matured.

His close shave with an illegal Indian bookmaker a decade ago suggested a serious lack of judgement. His roving eye tested his marriage to the limit.

He then threw away the chance of a second World Cup triumph by failing a drugs test which Warne blamed on one of his mother's slimming pills.

Muralitharan's model behaviour beyond the rope has never raised a single eyebrow. Inside it, however, the off spinner has courted controversy like no other player of his generation.

Umpires have stopped calling him for throwing since his tours to Australia in 1995-96 and 1998-99, and camera-wielding experts have exonerated him, but many in the game remain deeply uneasy about his unorthodox bowling action.

Former India great Bishen Bedi even likens him to a javelin thrower.

Sadly, Muralitharan will never escape the question mark.

The more successful he is, the more tongues will wag. In Australia in particular, they never stop.

There is no doubt that he will set a new record for Test wicket-taking in the very near future, first overhauling Warne and then the all-time mark of 519 set by Courtney Walsh.

There is little doubt that he will outlast Warne, who at 34 three years his senior. There have been suggestions that 800 Test wickets are within Murali's ambit.

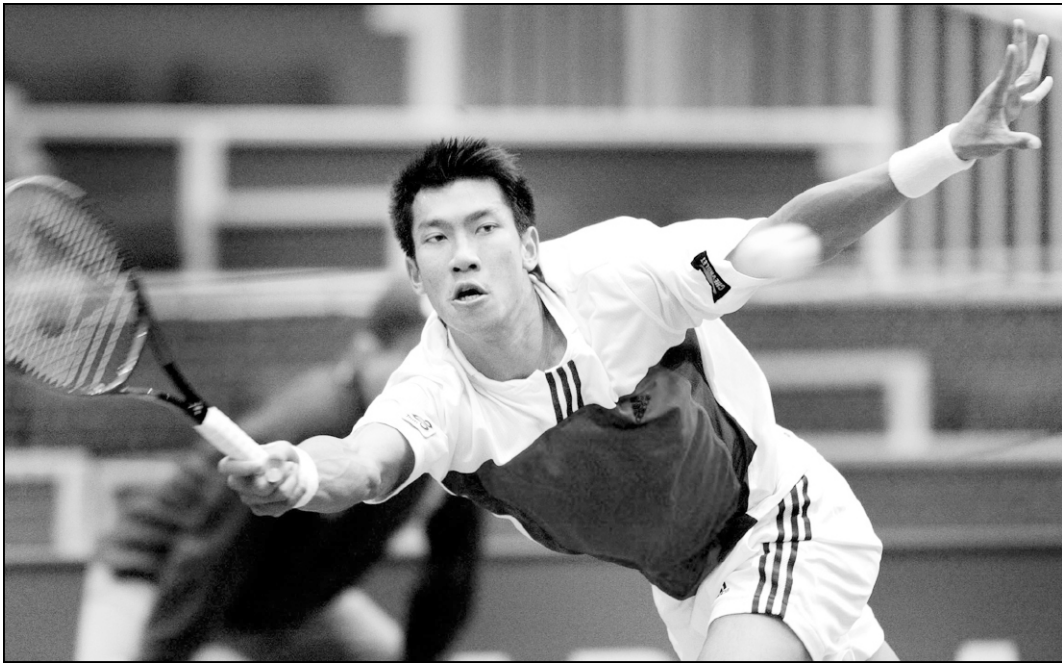


PHOTO: AFP

Thailand's Paradorn Srichapan stretches for a return against Russian Nikolay Davydenko during their match at the World Indoor Tournament in Rotterdam on Tuesday.

# Henman thru', Paradorn out



REUTERS, Rotterdam

British fifth seed Tim Henman reached the second round of the World Indoor Tournament on Tuesday after overcoming Spaniard Tommy Robredo 7-5, 6-2.

Thai fourth seed Paradorn Srichapan was earlier knocked out 6-4 6-3 by Russian Nikolay Davydenko, who next meets Jarkko Nieminen after the Finn outlasted Dutch eighth seed Martin Verkerk 7-6, 6-7, 6-4.

Henman, three times a finalist here, struggled in the first set against Robredo's baseline game and wasted a set point in the 10th game before converting two games

later.

He broke Robredo in the fourth game of the second set and from there the Spaniard could not find a way back as Henman clinched the match.

"It felt good tonight," said Henman.

"It has been a couple of weeks since I played a match and my serving was very consistent."

"This match gives me confidence. I feel happy about the improvements I made. I think this was a good quality match," he added.

The British world number 11 will meet the winner of Wednesday's match between Sweden's Jonas Bjorkman and Czech qualifier Tomas Cakl in the next round.

Paradorn was joined at the exit by Ivo Heuberger after the Swiss pulled out of his match against

former French Open champion Albert Costa with a shoulder injury when he was trailing 6-4, 3-0.

Paradorn started poorly, dropping the first four games of his match against a Russian opponent who, at world number 51, is ranked more than 40 places below him.

"I really moved too slow today," Paradorn said.

"I tried to fight back after an early double break but I missed the small chances I had on his service."

"Here... my first time in Rotterdam, where everything looks okay and we play in a fine stadium... it simply did not work out today."

Raemon Sluiter thrilled home fans with a comprehensive victory over Alex Corretja, the Dutchman beating the former world number two 6-4, 6-2 to advance.

## Gambill dumps Dent

AFP, Memphis

Jan-Michael Gambill dumped defending champion Taylor Dent 7-6, 6-3 at the 880,000-dollar ATP and WTA tennis tournament here Tuesday, avenging a second-round defeat in this event last year.

Gambill broke the third-seeded Dent's serve three times during the match before wrapping up the victory over is fellow American in 1 hour, 17 minutes.

In the second set, Gambill broke to lead 4-2 and, after three consecutive love service games of his own, held for the win.

Gambill, who is in the top half of the draw, will now meet either Milan winner Antony Dupuis of France or American wild card Brian Baker for a place in the quarterfinals.

# Minnows marvel

### FROM PAGE 13

Indian one-day star afterwards.  
When he was asked about the last group match against Bangladesh, Singh, the all-rounder, said he is looking to finish the group stage with an all-win record.  
"Bangladesh are very strong opponents. But we will give our hundred per cent to secure top place," he added.  
Both teams meet tomorrow at the same venue.  
On the other hand New Zealand team coach Dayle Hadlee said that two crucial run outs cost them.  
"My bowlers did an excellent job restricting the strong Indian batting line-up but those two run outs spoiled everything," said the elder brother of legendary bowler Sir Richard Hadlee.  
He was looking to bounce back with a convincingly win over Scotland in their last group match today.

### WEST INDIES V PAPUA NEW

GUINEA

West Indies roared to 371-3 with centu-

ries by Maraj and Simmons and then

booked the islanders for 219 in 44.2

overs.

The only concern for the Caribbeans

was the fitness of star fast bowler Ravi

Rampaul who had to leave the field after

bowling 3.2 overs.

"He suffered from breathlessness

and vomited while bowling. We didn't

want to risk him and took him off.

Hopefully he'll return for the next

matches," said manager Roland

Samphar over phone from Khulna.

**SCOREBOARD**

Scorecards of the four preliminary ICC U-

19 Cricket World Cup matches at different

venues yesterday:

**Australia vs Zimbabwe**

Venue: Shaheed Chandu Stadium, Bogra

**AUSTRALIA**

Paine b Chigumbura 19

Doropoulos b Panyangara 26

Beadle c Taylor b Panyangara 3

Skewes c Taylor b Panyangara 1

Crosthwaite c Taylor b Panyangara 0

Henriques b Chigumbura 3

O'Keefe b Chigumbura 0

Jacobs c Rainsford b Panyangara 7

Coyte c Taylor b Panyangara 1

Huckett c Williams b Chigumbura 1

Mangan not out 1

Extras: (b-1, lb-4, w-5, nb-1) 11

Total: (All out in 19 overs) 73

Fall of wkts: 1-37, 2-51, 3-53, 4-53, 5-56,

6-56, 7-60, 8-63, 9-67, 10-73.

**Bowler**

Rainsford 5 0 20 0

Panyangara 9 1 31 6

Chigumbura 5 1 17 4

**ZIMBABWE**

Taylor b Coyte 0

Cameron c Doropoulos b Henriques

0

Williams not out 37

Mawoyo c Skewes b Huckett 18

Ervine not out 0

Extras: (b-1, lb-4, w-13, nb-1) 19

Total: (For 3 wkts in 17.1 overs) 74

Did not bat: E Chigumbura, C de

Grandhomme, T Panyangara, P Utseya,

AG Cremer, EC Rainsford.

Fall of wkts: 1-0, 2-5, 3-68.

**Bowler**

Coyte 5 1 18 1

Henriques 6 1 16 1

Mangan 4 0 18 0

Huckett 2.1 0 17 1

**Result: Zimbabwe won by 7 wickets.**

**Man-of-the-match: T Panyangara.**

**Toss: Australia**

**India vs New Zealand**

Venue: Bangabandhu National Stadium

**INDIA**

Uthappa lbw b Smith 11

Dhawan c Watling b Smith 4

Rayudu c Eathorne b Findlay 36

Raina c Watling b Findlay 18

Waghela c Watling b Findlay 7

Karthik c & b Findlay 0

S Singh not out 68

Dhiman b Davis 38

Sharma lbw b Davis 3

Gupta c & b Eathorne 1

R Singh c Davis b Smith 6

Extras: (lb-5, w-13, nb-5) 23

Total: (All out in 47.2 overs) 215

Fall of wkts: 1-15, 2-30, 3-71, 4-86, 5-88,

6-101, 7-167, 8-175, 9-185, 10-215.

**Bowler**

Davis 10 1 47 2

Smith 8.2 1 42 3

Bolstad 3 0 28 0

Findlay 10 0 36 4

McKay 10 2 29 0

Eathorne 5 0 25 1

Chrisp 1 0 3 0

**NEW ZEALAND**

Carey c Waghela b Dhiman 1

Watling run out (Raina) 55

Chrisp c Karthik b Singh 13

Wilson c S Singh b Sharma 30

Flynn c Karthik b Waghela 0

McKay c Raina b Singh 19

Findlay b Gupta 3

Bolstad st Karthik b Sharma 4

Davis b Gupta 7

Smith not out 0

Extras: (b-4, w-9, nb-1) 14

Total: (All out in 44.5 overs) 146

Fall of wkts: 1-1, 2-26, 3-94, 4-100, 5-

132, 6-132, 7-133, 8-139, 9-139, 10-146.

**Bowler**

Singh 9 0 23 2

Dhiman 7 1 19 1

Gupta 7.5 1 17 2

Raina 9 1 29 0