

## Did U Know?

Tennis equipment has changed drastically over the years. Early wooden rackets were replaced with graphite alternatives and the very last wooden racket used in a Championship was at Wimbledon in 1988.



## What to WATCH

### ESPN

**Bangladesh vs Zimbabwe**  
Second Test, Day One  
**Live at 1:50 pm**

**UEFA Champions League**  
Valencia vs VS Besiktas  
**Live at 2:25 am (Friday)**

### STAR Sports

**Sportline**  
Sport News  
**Live at 8:00 pm**

**UEFA Champions League**  
Perugia vs PSV Eindhoven  
**Live at 1:25 am (Friday)**




## OMPETITION 20


Tick the correct answers,  
Post to  
**The Daily Star**

**Competition closes at 8 pm**  
**Feb 27, 2004 and draw**  
**shortly afterwards**

1. How many teams are taking part in the ICC U-19 Cricket World Cup?	16	12	20
2. How many months was Shane Warne banned from cricket?	12	13	
3. Who won the Pan Pacific Open title?	Davenport	Clijsters	
4. Who won the Tokyo Marathon?	Njenga Sebastian	Osaki	
Name .....			
Class. ....	Roll No. ....		
School Address .....			
Phone: (If any) .....			



## TALK TURKEY



**Rahul Dravid**  
(India cricket vice-captain)  
*"I do not think there is anything to fear. We are going to go out there and do our best like anywhere else. We gave our best in Australia and we will try our best in Pakistan."*

## B'baria cricket

OUR CORRESPONDENT

Chalantika Sporting Club and Titas Cricket Club won their respective matches in the Freedom Fighter Ranga Mia Cup cricket tournament at the Shahjadapur Junior High School ground yesterday.

In the first match, Chalantika defeated Molaysh Cricket Club by 20 runs.

Winning the toss the winners batted first and collected 125 after being all out in 50 overs. Arman topscored with 60 and he was declared man-of-the-match.

In reply, Molaysh were all out for 105 in 50 overs.

On the other match of the day, Titas Club defeated Surja Tarun Cricket Club by 30 runs.

Titas Cricket Club batted first after won toss and made 130 in 50 overs. Hamid scored highest 58 and was adjudged man-of-the-match.

In reply, Surja Tarun bundled out for 100.

# Alamgir in, Monjurul out

## Final Test in Bulawayo from today

### Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh made one change in their side for the second and final Test against Zimbabwe starting in Bulawayo today.

Quick bowler Alamgir Kabir, who was instrumental in the win against Zimbabwe A in the Tigers' only warm-up match leading up to the first Test, was brought in in place of left-arm medium pacer Monjurul Islam who looked ordinary in the 183-run drubbing in Harare.

The Tigers have to play out of their skin to avoid a repeat thrashing but should find comfort in the fact that Zimbabwe could be without three of their most important performers.

The tourists tormentor at Harare

Andy Blignaut is already out of this Test with a thigh strain. Fast bowler Blignaut took the first Test hattrick by a Zimbabwean near the close on day four to reduce Bangladesh to 14 for five in their second innings. That was a killer blow for the tourists.

Blignaut was replaced by Blessing Mahwire.

There were concerns regarding the fitness of skipper Heath Streak and batsman Stuart Carlisle.

Streak is in doubt with a back spasms while Carlisle was suffering from a quadricpe strain and is unlikely to play according to team manager Babu Maman.

Coach Geoff Marsh said that they would delay naming their team until the morning of the match because of the weather, which was wet for most part of Wednesday.

Bangladesh will be hoping to bury their second innings blues once and for all. At Harare, some

outrageously loose shots cost them dear on the fourth day.

"We have had a lot of discussions regarding the mistakes made in Harare. Our batting was irresponsible in the second innings and we also fielded poorly and allowed Zimbabwe to reach a big score. We are hoping for a much better performance here," said Bangladesh manager MALatif.

Latif also informed that he had submitted an official letter to match referee Wasim Raja pointing out some of the crucial umpiring errors that really pegged Bangladesh back.

"The dismissals of Mushfiqur Rahman and Tapash Baisya in the second innings and a few other umpiring decisions were not up to the mark. So I've written to the match referee expressing

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PHOTO: ZOBAER HOSSAIN SIKDER

Left-arm spinner Enamul Haque celebrates after dismissing Ugandan batsman Raymond Otim at the Chittagong Divisional Stadium on Wednesday.

# BD crawl into semis



STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Bangladesh narrowly escaped what might have been a disastrous afternoon against a tiny Uganda in a Plate Championship mismatch of Fifth ICC U-19 World Cup at the Chittagong Divisional Stadium yesterday.

The home side wrapped up their second win in only 19.5 overs but not before they had goose bumps while chasing a listless opposition total of 78.

They lost six wickets in a mad chase before a sensible run-a-ball 26 by Nazimuddin saw them through. It was for the second successive game that Richard McInnes' boys suffered a sensational top-order collapse after the one against Canada.

The high-profile batting line up that included Nafees Iqbal, Aftab Ahmed and skipper Ashqur Rhman wobbled in the spinning web of Emmanuel Isaneez, who captured all the six wickets.

It was a brilliant effort by the Ugandan off-spinner who was later adjudged man-of-the-match. He finished with 6-37, the second best bowling effort in the tournament so far after Zimbabwe's Tishane Panyangara.

Despite the unimpressive victory Bangladesh moved into the Plate semifinals along with Ireland from their group. Ireland scored an impressive 155-run win against Canada in the other game at the MA

Aziz Stadium.

"It could have been a worst day for Bangladesh had number six Nazimuddin not batted sensibly," commented a local cricket official after the match.

Emmanuel however was over the moon.

"I'm very happy with my effort today. It was my first six-wicket success at any level," Emmanuel told journalists during the post-match briefing.

His effort outshone another brilliant bowling performance by Bangladesh's young paceman Nazmul Hossain, who captured five wickets for 30 runs.

McInnes was certainly a worried man after the match.

"The bowling was good but the batsmen must improve their concentration level if we are to move into the Plate final," said a grim-faced Australian after the game. But before that Bangladesh must beat Ireland in their final group league match on Friday to avoid a semifinal meeting with Australia.

CUP CONTEST

England and Pakistan progressed

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PHOTO: STAR

New Zealand batsman Flynn looks round to see his stumps disturbed by Pakistan Monsur Amzad (not in the picture) during their Super League game of the Fifth ICC U-19 World Cup at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

# Kiwis can't be beaten

### Cricket

AFP, Dunedin

New Zealand edged closer to their first ever series victory over South Africa after crushing the tourists to take an unbeatable 3-1 lead in the six-match one-day international cricket series here Wednesday.

All-rounder Chris Cairns sealed a six-wicket victory for the home side with a huge six, as the New Zealanders revelled in chilly conditions at Carisbrook while the South Africans froze.

Record third wicket stand of 126 off 123 balls between man-of-the-match Hamish Marshall, who

scored 74, and Scott Styris, 69, saw New Zealand reach their victory target after South Africa had earlier scored 259-7.

Big-hitting Cairns ensured the game was wrapped up with an over to spare, whacking Makhaya Ntini for two huge sixes and adding another off Andre Nel to be unbeaten on 29 from 22 balls.

In conditions better suited to winter sports, and temperatures barely into double figures, South Africa battled for bowling firepower, and their pace attack Shaun Pollock excluded were again cannon fodder for New Zealand's top order.

Pollock, not down to start in Tuesday's washed out game because of a groin strain, but fit

enough 24 hours later, went wicketless for a fifth consecutive match to stay stranded on 295 career scalps, but was the only bowler to contain New Zealand with none for 33 off 10.

On what was a hard, fast batsman's paradise, New Zealand skipper Stephen Fleming made South Africa bat first and their total of 259 for seven, was about 20 runs short of what would have been a competitive score.

"It was probably a 280 wicket and that's probably where we lost the game," South Africa captain Graeme Smith said. "If we had another 20 runs we probably would have won."

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## Russell shock Abahani

SPORTS REPORTER

Moroccan striker Yousuf struck twice as Sheikh Russell Krira Chakra pulled off an exciting 2-1 victory against Abahani Krira Chakra in the lone Western Union Premier Division Football League at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday.

The result saw this season's surprise package Russell leap into second place securing 26 points from 14 matches, one point more than Muktiyoddha Sangsad who have a game in hand.

The defeat effectively ended Abahani's title hopes. The Sky Blues dropped one place to third with 24 points from 14 matches.

Big-spenders Brothers Union have a virtually unassailable lead in the 10-team table with 34 points from 14 outings.

Yousuf put Russell ahead in the 34th minute and he put the issue beyond doubt in the 56th minute penalty. Rakib scored for Abahani in the 37th minute.

The teams drew goalless in their first-leg encounter.

## Cricket-wise Inzamam

AFP, Lahore

Pakistani cricket captain Inzamam-ul Haq Tuesday asked his team-mates to demonstrate discipline and sportsmanship in the historic upcoming series with India.

"I don't want any misconduct or verbal exchanges as we need to play in the true spirit of the game," Inzamam directed his players on the first day of the training camp.

"After all this is just a game of cricket and nothing more, the same appeal is to fans also and they must take it as cricket," he said, reflecting concerns over traditional passion-fired encounters on the field between the two rivals in the past.

India are to tour Pakistan next month amid a current thaw in relations between the two countries with both governments vowing to keep the momentum for peace going.

The tune-up camp with a preliminary squad of 24 in attendance is for next month's historic series with India between March 13-April 17 with five one-day games and three Tests.

India are taking up a tour of Pakistan for the first time since 1989-90.

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## Manikganj cricket

OUR CORRESPONDENT

Sewta Uday Sena (SUS) became champions in the Language Martyr Rafiq Memorial Cricket Tournament defeating Nizam Samsul Smriti Sangha (NSSS) by eight wickets at the Shaheed Miraj-Tapan Stadium in Manikganj yesterday.

NSSS batted first and made only 89 before being all out in 37.2 overs with Rocky making 28 and Pintu 23. Obaydur and Sakib did the damage sharing six wickets.

SUS replied with 90-2 in 22.4 overs. Nadim top scored with 41 not out. Pintu and Rocky took one wicket each for the losers.

Later, former Bangladesh captain Naimur Rahman and Manikganj District Sports Association member Kazi Rayan Uddin Tuku distributed prizes.



<b>Western Union Premier Division Football League</b> Victoria vs Badda Jagarani (3:00 pm) Dhanmondi vs Dhaka Wanderers (5:00 pm) Venue: Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium, Mirpur
<b>Nat'l Cricket League (Day-4)</b> Rajshahi vs Khulna Venue: Rangpur Cricket Garden
<b>ICC U-19 Cricket World Cup Super League</b> India vs Sri Lanka (1:30 pm) Venue: Bangabandhu National Stadium
South Africa vs West Indies (9:00 am) Venue: Fatullah Cricket Stadium
<b>Plate Championship</b> Scotland vs Papua New Guinea (9:00 am) Venue: M A Aziz Stadium
Australia vs Nepal (9:00 am) Venue: Chittagong Divisional Stadium

# Mukti stoop to Nijmeh

### Football

SPORTS REPORTER

Muktiyoddha Sangsad Krira Chakra made group favourite Nijmeh Club sweat before going down 1-0 to the Lebanese outfit in the home leg of the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) Cup at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday.

The Red's brave show ended when Lebanon international Mohammad Ali Kassas headed

home in the 64th minute to seal their second successive victory in the new AFC competition while for Mukti-joddha it was their second straight 1-0 loss.

The home club's dogged display however drew praise from Nijmeh coach Abd Elaziz Mustafa Abd Elshafi.

"Frankly we were lucky to win after not performing at our best. But I think all credit should go to Muktiyoddha who played very good football," said Elshafi after the game.

But he thought the hard surface at the ground had unsettled his



PHOTO: STAR

Muktiyoddha Krira Chakra's Ghanaian defender Charles Ghansa makes a sliding tackle against Enol Edderson of Lebanese side Nijmeh during their AFC Cup clash at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday. The visitors won match 1-0.

star-studded Dhaka accomplished a thrashing innings and 25-run victory over the home side with a day to spare.

Meanwhile, Sylhet recorded a ten-wicket victory over Chittagong at the Comilla Stadium. They were set a target of 63 after they had wrapped up the Port City team's second innings for 163. The winners overhauled the target making 64 in only 15.3 overs with all their wickets intact.

While Dhaka and Sylhet completed their business successfully on the third day, defending champions Khulna were also well set to secure full points as they forced Rajshahi to follow on at the Rangpur Cricket Garden.

**DHAKA V BARISAL**

Barisal resumed the day on 126-4, still needing another 69 runs to avoid an innings defeat. But they lost the remaining six wickets for only 40, handing Dhaka the crushing victory.

Occasional spinner Sanwar

charges at times.

"My boys found playing here very difficult to control the ball at times," he added.

Despite the loss Muktiyoddha coach Shafiqul Islam Manik was still proud of his team's determination to stick to a pre-match strategy. It was also a vast improvement on their recent league loss 2-0 to Mohammedan.

"I'm satisfied with the way my boys kept to a plan. In fact, I think they played better football than the technically superior Lebanese. Also, injuries prevented me from selecting a full strength team. Hopefully, things will improve in our next game," said Manik.

Muktiyoddha, which lost their first away match to Nisa Club in Turkmenistan, will fly to Yemen for another away fixture against Yemen league champions Al Shaab lbb club on April 7.

In front of a sparse crowd Wednesday's game, as a whole, produced little in terms of chances for the Dhaka giants.

Muktiyoddha's Lulenti could have broken the evening's duck after just five minutes of the contest. However, instead of going for precision, the Ugandan striker opted for power. So his right-footer sailed wide much to the relief of the Nemjah goalkeeper Tafah.

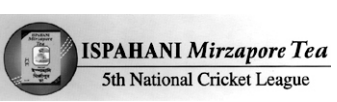
The Reds also wasted another opportunity just the breather.

The home side's first half showing impressed former Bangladesh captain and ace striker Alfaz Ahmed, who was among the 3,000 spectators.

"It was excellent although they

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# Dhaka, Sylhet stay level



SPORTS REPORTER

Dhaka and Sylhet stayed atop the Ispahani Mirzapore Tea Fifth National League table with emphatic wins against their respective opponents on the third day of the penultimate round four-day matches at different venues across the country yesterday.

The outcomes increased both teams' collection of points to 36 points and the championship will be decided after the final round.

Dhaka will take on Khulna and Sylhet meet Rajshahi in the last round games from February 29. The teams start with a one-day match and then play the four-dayers.

Bottom-placed Barisal suffered a lower-order collapse in their second innings to be bundled out for 166 after resuming the day on 126-4 as

# Mahela revives Lanka

### Cricket

AFP, Colombo

Mahela Jayawardene slammed a fighting 80 under pressure as Sri Lanka reached a competitive 226-8 after early setbacks against Australia in the third one-day international here on Wednesday.

Sri Lanka were struggling at 34-3 following fast bowler Jason Gillespie's triple-strike before Jayawardene came to their rescue with his 20th half-century.

The stylish middle-order batsman put on 58 for the fifth wicket with Tillakaratne Dilshan (30) and as many runs for the next with Upul Chandana (40).

Jayawardene hit five fours in his 110-ball knock before being caught short of the crease going for the

second run.

Lower-order batsmen Chaminda Vaas and Kumar Dharmasena also chipped in with 24 runs apiece as Sri Lanka scored 80 in the last 10 overs to reach a respectable total after electing to bat in the day-night match.

The Australian paceman struck with his fifth delivery, having Jayasuriya caught by Michael Clarke in the gully for no score. He then bowled Atapattu (three) with the one that cut in sharply.

Kumar Sangakkara became Gillespie's third victim, edging a delivery straight to Matthew Hayden in the gully after contributing 15.

Gillespie conceded just 19 runs in his first eight overs.

**SCOREBOARD**

Scoreboard after Sri Lanka's

innings against Australia in the third one-day international at the Premadasa Stadium in Colombo on

Wednesday:

<b>SRI LANKA</b>				
Atapattu b Gillespie	3			
Jayasuriya c Clarke b Gillespie	0			
Sangakkara c Hayden b Gillespie	15			
Jayawardene run out	80			
Arnold c Clarke b Hogg	4			
Dilshan c Gilchrist b Symonds	30			
Chandana run out	34			
Vaas c Hogg b Kasprowicz	24			
Dharmasena not out	24			
Zoysa not out	0			
Extras: (b-1, lb-8, w-3)	12			
Total: (For 8 wkts in 50 overs)	226			
Fall of wickets: 1-1, 2-10, 3-34, 4-54, 5-112, 6-170, 7-182, 8-218				
Did not bat: Muralitharan				
<b>Bowler</b>	<b>O</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>W</b>
Gillespie	10	1	36	3
Kasprowicz	10	2	37	1
Harvey	6	0	29	0
Hogg	10	0	41	1
Clarke	5	0	26	0
Symonds	9	0	48	1



PHOTO: COURTESY

Managing director of GreenenPhone Ola Ree (2nd from R) hands over a cheque of Taka 50 lakh to Bangladesh Cricket Board's marketing committee chairman Aziz Al Kaiser during a ceremony on Tuesday. GreenenPhone has agreed to sponsor the Bangladesh cricket team for two years that already started in 2003. BCB CEO Maqbul Dudhia (L) and Intekhab Mahmud, additional general manager sales and marketing of GreenenPhone, were also present.