



## Did U Know?

About 42,000 tennis balls are used in the plus-minus 650 matches in the Wimbledon Championship.



**ESPN**

Sportscentre  
Sport News  
Live at 8:30 pm

**STAR Sports**

Sportline  
Sport News  
Live at 8:00 pm

**Star WHIZZ KID**  
**COMPETITION 207**

Tick the correct answers, post to  
**The Daily Star**  
Win attractive prizes

**Competition closes at 8 pm**  
**March 12, 2004 and draw**

1. How many runs did Bangladesh score in the first innings of the first Test against Zimbabwe?

331	400	390
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2. Who is the first Zimbabwe bowler to have claimed a hat-trick in Test?

Blignaut	Olonga	Hondo
Hayden	Ponting	

3. Who was man-of-the-match in the second ODI between Sri Lanka and Australia?

Hawke	Federer
Vaas	

4. Who clinched the Rotterdam World tennis title?

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**Name** .....

.....

**Class** ..... **Roll No.** .....

**School Address** .....

**Phone: (If any)** .....



## Tiger Woods

(American golf super star)  
*"I'm going through some ups and downs. It's nice to have had the friends and family that I had*



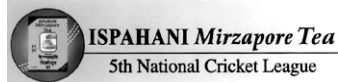
**Western Union Premier Football League**  
Arambagh vs Badda Jagarani (3:00 pm)  
Muktijoddha vs Abahani (5:00 pm)  
Venue: Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium, Mirpur  
**Nat'l Cricket League (Day-1)**  
Barisal vs Chittagong  
Venue: Barisal Stadium  
Rajshahi vs Sylhet  
Venue: Sylhet Stadium  
Dhaka vs Khulna  
Venue: Jessore Stadium  
**ICC U-19 Cricket World Cup Plate Championship Final**



Sheikh Russell's Moroccan midfielder Shad Abdel Fetah (L) tries to keep control against Brothers Union's Liton during their Western Union Premier Division Football League encounter at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

## Ctg one-day kings



### SPORTS REPORTER

Chittagong lifted the one-day title of the Ispahani Mirzapore Tea National Cricket League when the port city outfit thrashed Barisal by seven wickets at the Barisal Stadium yesterday.

Set to score 209, Chittagong cruised to 211-3 in 43.1 overs with openers Salaudhin and Masum hitting half-centuries. He cracked a dozen fours.

Salaudhin scored a blazing 62 off 51 balls before falling in the 15th over with 91 runs on the board. Masum scored a responsible 51 off 91 balls that included four boundaries.

One-day specialist Ehsanul Haque scored a 57-ball 45 and Faisal, who is the only consistent performer, capped a fine season with an unbeaten 25. He entertained the Barisal crowd with boundaries.

Earlier, Barisal made a fighting 208 before being all out in 48.3 overs with opener Imran scoring highest 68 off 98 balls. Arafat scored a quickfire 49 after Barisal suffered a stunning top-order collapse, losing four wickets for only 50 runs.

Off-spinner Sabbir Khan, who spearheaded the Chittagong bowling attack, finished with fantastic

figures of 10-2-31-3.

With this win Chittagong finished with 16 points on completion of their 10 games.

Rajshahi finished second with 14 points after defeating Sylhet by six wickets at the Sylhet Stadium in a low-scoring affair.

Sent into bat, Sylhet were restricted 162-8 and Rajshahi rode on an unbeaten half-century by Anisur Rahman to finish on 166-4 in 31 overs.

Dhaka, who conceded the one-day crown to Chittagong, however, won their last match against Khulna by six wickets at the Shamsul Huda Stadium in Jessore.

Dhaka bowled Khulna for just 131 in just 30.1 overs and then laboured to 133-4 in 43 overs. Opener Rashedul Islam scored 68 of 98 balls with seven fours and two sixes.

Although Dhaka lost the one-day title, the capital outfit will engage in the demanding four-day version as they vie with Sylhet for the coveted first-class title.

FINAL ONE-DAY TABLE					
TEAM	M	W	D	L	Pts
Chittagong	10	8	0	2	16
Rajshahi	10	7	0	3	14
Dhaka	10	5	0	5	10
Sylhet	10	4	0	6	8
Khulna	10	3	0	7	6
Barisal	10	3	0	7	6

The final four-day battle will start today.

### SCORES IN BRIEF

#### Chittagong v Barisal

Venue: Barisal Stadium

**BARISAL:** 208 all out in 48.3 overs (Imran 68, Arafat 49; Sabbir 3-31, Ahsanullah 2-33, Masum 2-46)

**CHITTAGONG:** 211 for 3 in 43.1 overs (Salaudhin 62, Masum 51, Ensanul 45)

**Result: Chittagong won by seven wickets.**

SEE PAGE 14 COL 5

## Janaza of Piaru today

### SPORTS REPORTER

The *namaj-e-janaza* of noted sports organiser Kahirul Anwar Piaru will be held today at 10am at the Bangabandhu National Stadium.

Piaru, the president of Dhanmondi Club and also a vice-president of Bangladesh Football Federation, was gunned down outside the club on Sunday night.

Relatives of the deceased have requested well-wishers and admirers to attend the *janaza*.

The body of Piaru will be later sent to Feni for burial at the family graveyard.

## Brittle batting in Zimbabwe

AFP, Kuekwe

A scheduled 50-over match which was supposed to benefit Bangladesh ahead of their forthcoming series of five one-day internationals against Zimbabwe has instead worked against them.

After winning the toss and batting against a Zimbabwe A side here, their top-order was exposed when they managed to put together 96-5 before a rainstorm washed out play.

Only 28.3 overs were bowled in just over two hours available for play in this midlands mining town.

Bangladesh captain Habibul Bashar was struck on the forearm but X-rays showed no break. He is expected to be available for the first ODI in Bulawayo on Saturday. He had scored 13, his highest total in five innings here.

Rajin Saleh was not out on 28 when the match was called off.

The match also presented an opportunity for Zimbabwe medium pace bowler Gary Brent, who took three wickets for only 19 runs in his 10 overs. His performance could secure him a place in the Zimbabwe ODI squad of 14 for the series, to be announced on Thursday.

Bangladesh have not yet named

SEE PAGE 14 COL 5

## Russell keep it alive

### SPORTS REPORTER



Season's sensation Sheikh Russell Krira Chakra ensured a

nervy climax to the Western Union Premier Division football league when they smashed runaway leaders Brothers Union's unbeaten streak at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday.

A 51st minute strike from Moroccan forward Abdul Al Hadi was the difference in the evening's absorbing game and that left the race for the title still very much alive despite Brothers having a five-point advantage over second-placed Russell with two matches in hand.

A win or for Brothers in any of those games or draws in both will land them a long cherished first league title. The problem is that the Gopibagh big-spenders are up against giants Abahani and Muktijoddha Sangsad and the memories of 1985 will definitely haunt them. That was the year when Brothers only needed a draw in their final encounter against Abahani but instead saw a Sheikh Mohammad Aslam-inspired Sky Blues come back from 2-0 down to win 3-2. Since that fateful miss, the men in orange have never got that close to the championship until this year when they broke the bank to collect virtually all the top names in local football.

Russell will enjoy the scenario better as they have already achieved much more than what anyone expected of them including themselves. The newcomers increased their tally to 32 points from 16 games after Wednesday's win and are firm favourites against their last two opponents in the league - lowly Badda Jagarani and Dhaka Wanderers Club. If they notch up full points and Brothers don't get two then the young team from Uttara will be crowned league champions, a prospect that excites veteran coach Wajed Gazi.

"Anything can happen now. However I'm happy with what we

have managed to do in our first season. We played like champions so it will not be unfair if we win the title. But we will keep our fingers crossed during Brothers' matches," said Gazi after the match.

On the other hand Brothers were still upbeat despite going down for the first time in the championship.

"We are disappointed but not unduly worried as we only need one victory in the remaining fixtures. We are hopeful of settling the issue in the next match," said Brothers manager Amer Khan.

But Khan's confidence was not visible in his team's performance. Rather it was the spirited Russell booters who dominated from the start. Fresh from their wins against Abahani and Muktijoddha, Russell showed no let up from the tempo and could have gone ahead as early as in the 14th minute had linesman Mahbubur Rahman not ruled out a goal when Younes put the ball in the net.

The tall Moroccan striker headed home from a Kamal cross and it looked like a perfectly legitimate strike but Mahbubur raised his flag indicating that the ball had crossed the goalline before Kamal delivered it.

It looked as if Russell were fighting against the odds as referee Hannan Miron was amazingly generous with Brothers and awarded them no less than half dozen free-kicks after Russell took the lead. At the same time, Miron was oblivious of the constant rough challenges on the Russell players.

But Wajed Gazi's charges rallied on and all four Moroccan recruits were on song much to the dismay of the nearly two thousand Brothers supporters who had gone to the stadium in a festive mood expecting to celebrate winning the league for the first time.

After the barren first half, the tireless Hadi found himself unmarked outside the box from a long free-kick taken by compatriot Burdif Mohammad. Hadi entered the danger zone leaving two Brothers

defenders in his wake and unleashed a left-footed blinder that thudded into custodian Biplob's gloves and came out. Fortunately Hadi followed up top send in a rebounder.

Brothers regrouped after the goal. Defender Nazrul headed an Arman corner which missed the target by inches. Russian striker Victor was almost on the scoresheet eight minutes from time but his powerful left-footer went out kissing the far post.

The match got ugly in the closing stages when Brothers' Bangladesh international Nazrul punched Younes in an off the ball incident but surprisingly Miron and his assistants preferred to overlook it.

**Yellow cards:** Francis and Liton (Brothers), Azam Biplob and Rezaul Karim (Russell).

### TEAMS

**Sheikh Russell:** Azam Biplob, Kamal, Narayan, Burdif, Rezaul, Jahangir, Asif, Nurul Islam, Abdel, Hadi and Younes.

**Brothers Union:** Biplob, Nazrul, Francis, Parvez Babu, Suján, Arman, Iqbal, Liton, Alfaz (Gomez), Victor and Constantine.

**Referee:** Hannan Miron.

## WANDERERS-1; VICTORIA-0

Earlier, a 72nd minute goal by Jahangir Alam enabled Dhaka Wanderers Club to earn an important solitary goal victory against Victoria Sporting Club at the same venue.

The result pulled Wanderers almost out of the threat of relegation as they increased their tally to 18 points. On the other hand Victoria are living dangerously on 14 points from 15 matches.

SEE PAGE 14 COL 8

## Caribbeans cruise to final



### SPORTS REPORTER

The West Indies outplayed England by 94 runs under lights at the Bangabandhu National Stadium on Tuesday to go through to the final of the ICC U-19 Cricket World Cup where they'll face Pakistan.

England were always going to struggle once the Windies had set them a target of 250. Their chase never took off and four run-outs illustrated the pressure they had been under.

West Indies skipper Denesh Ramdin had a day to remember. Firstly, he called the toss correct and inevitably chose to bat first knowing that teams chasing always face difficulty on the tracks of the Bangabandhu. He then went on to become the top-scorer for his side with 72 from 85 balls as he steadied the nerves after the Windies were struggling in the middle. Man-of-the-match Ramdin shared an 87-run stand for the sixth wicket with the pugnacious Zamal Khan (60 not out from 49 balls) as the Caribbeans posted a more than useful 249 for six after being 146 for 5 in the 36th. 88 runs came off the last ten overs.

Anything over 220 is a formidable

ble target in day-night games at the Bangabandhu but even that looked a far cry in the early part of the West Indian innings. Tishan Maraj was run out by his opening partner Xavier Marshall in the very first over and the richly talented Lendl Simmons played 25 balls for just five before being trapped lbw while trying to turn medium pacer Adam Harrison to leg.

Marshall twice survived confident caught-behind appeals on his way to a stroke-filled 45 (62 balls) but fell to the gentle pace of Luke Wright when Mark Lawson ran from extra cover to mid off and dived to take an outstanding catch.

The West Indies were 69 for three and England sensed a collapse. But Assad Fudadin put his head down and promptly reached his third 50 of the World Cup. But Harrison dismissed Fudadin and Jonathan Augustus in consecutive overs and the West Indies were again in trouble. However Ramdin and Zamal counter-attacked with such gusto that England were helpless in stopping the runs from flowing. Ramdin hit seven lusty hits across the ropes before he was caught behind attempting a scoop shot. Zamal however carried on in cavalier style. His knock included a mighty heave over mid-wicket for the only six of the innings and seven boundaries.

Ravi Rampaul and Mervin Matthew shared the new ball for

the Windies but hurled down too many loose deliveries in the first five or so overs. But they soon tightened up. Rampaul forced Ravi Bopara to play a pull which he mistimed to mid-on. One change Simmons then got into the act with his bowling. He bowled a nagging line and soon enticed Simon Davies to step out and miss the ball. Wicketkeeper Ramdin was on hand to effect the stumping. 45 for two.

Marshall then stunningly caught Luke Wright for three with a goalkeepers catch at point.

England captain Alastair Cook was fighting a lone battle but he tried to give himself some room and was castled by Rampaul for 33. Tim Bresnan hit a run-a-ball 41, but fell victim to some poor calling and Samit Patel holed out to mid-wicket in the very same Zamal over to leave England on 114 for 6.

The bespectacled Tom New attempted a second run off a fumble and fell short of the crease while; Adam Harrison was run out after James Hildreth had edged through to the keeper.

'Golden arm' Simmons finished it off with a sparkling pick-up and throw to run out last man Mark Lawson while being off balance as the West Indies started celebrating.

The final will be on Friday at the

SEE PAGE 14 COL 2

## 'Let's think cricket'

AFP, New Delhi

India's cricket team is eagerly waiting for the Pakistan tour to begin next week, vice-captain Rahul Dravid said on Wednesday while brushing aside any security fears.

"I think enough has been said and done about the security bit, it's now time to think about the cricket," Dravid told reporters during a sponsors' function here to unveil the trophy at stake for the Test and one-day series.

"The players are as excited about the tour as the fans are. Many in the team have not played in Pakistan at all. It should be a great experience."

Sourav Ganguly's Team India leave next Wednesday for their first full tour of Pakistan in almost 15 years, comprising five one-day internationals followed by three Tests.

India's champion batsman Sachin Tendulkar is the only current player on either side to have experienced an India-Pakistan Test on Pakistani soil, having made his international debut there on the last tour in 1989.

Dravid said the upcoming 40-day tour will present a new challenge.

"It will be a test of skill and nerves for both teams. Neither India and Pakistan will want to take it easy and that should provide some engrossing cricket all through."

India, who have never won a Test match in Pakistan in 20 attempts, were capable of breaking the jinx this time, Dravid said.

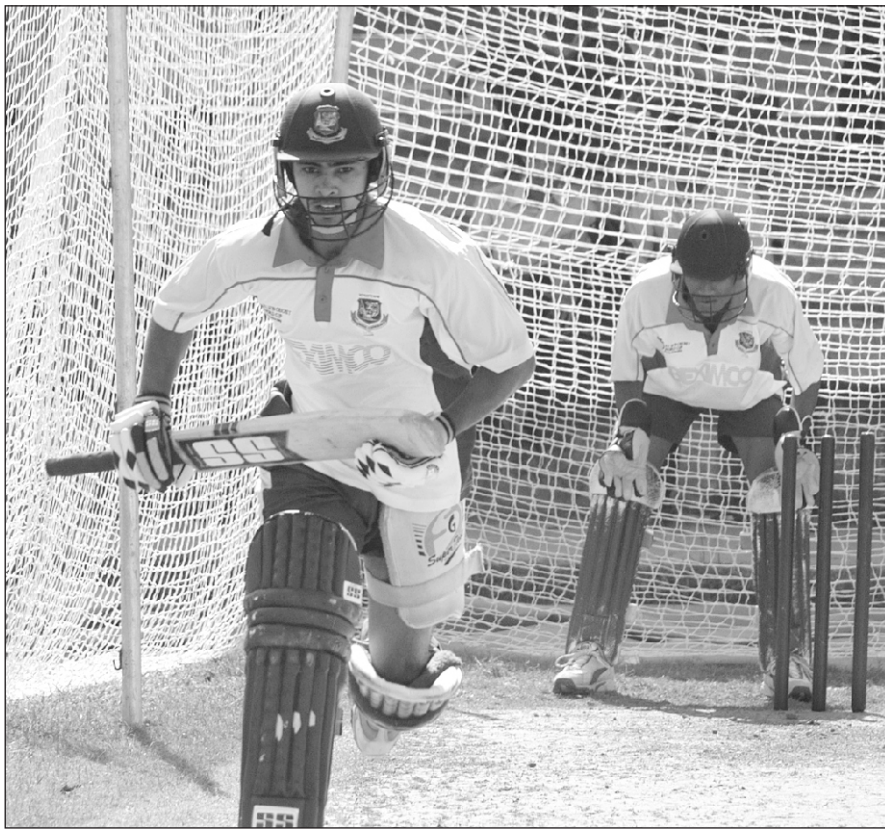
"The fact that we played some good, intense cricket in Australia will work to our advantage in Pakistan," he said. "We want to take the intensity to the Pakistan series."

India drew the Test series against the world champions 1-1, but were swept aside 2-0 in the best-of-three one-day finals.

Dravid admitted the scheduling of the tour, where the one-dayers will be played before the Tests, was a blessing for the Indians who have been hit by injuries to key bowlers.

While off-spinner Harbhajan Singh has been ruled out for the

SEE PAGE 14 COL 5



A combo picture shows (L) Bangladesh batsman Nazimuddin setting off for a run while (R) Australian fast bowler Gary Putland bowling during their respective net sessions at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium and Women's Sports Complex yesterday. The two sides battle for the Plate Championship at the Fatullah Cricket Stadium in Narayanganj today.

PHOTOS: STAR