

Fastest goal in a soccer World Cup match in15 seconds by Vaclav Masek (Czechoslovakia) against Mexico in Chile,





Pele

(Brazilian soccer legend) "Only in Brazil I could have named 100 players. When FIFA completes a 1,000 years, if I'm still here, I will happily pick a 1,000 players.'



ESPN

Football Focus Live at 6:30 pm Sportscentre Live at 8:30 pm UEFA Champions League Man United vs FC Porto Live at 1:30 am (Wednesday)

STAR Sports

Sportsline Sports News Live at 8:00 pm **UEFA Champions** League Chelsea vs Vfb Stuttgart Live at 1:30 am (Wednesday) New Zealand vs South Africa First Test, Day One Live at 4:00 am (Wednesday)

TEN Sports Australia vs Sri Lanka First Test, Day Two Live at 10:30 am



l. How many runs did Bangladesh score in the first innings of the first Test against

Who is the first Zimbabwe bowler to have claimed hattrick in Test?

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

Vaas Hayden Ponting 4. Who clinched the Rotterdam

World tennis title?

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

Phone: (If any)



Western Union Premier Football League Mohammedan vs Victoria (3:00

Abahani vs Badda Jagarani (5:00

Venue: Sher-e-Bangla National

Top players to form A side

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

The national selectors included eight players who are now touring Zimbabwe for the full Bangladesh side when they announced a strong 25-member Bangladesh A squad for two four-dayers and five imited-over matches against Zimbabwe A.

The second string Zimbabwean side will arrive in Bangladesh on March 10 for a 27-day tour.

Chief selector Faruque Ahmed said yesterday that the continuous wash-outs in Zimbabwe had robbed the players of precious experience and that's why his panel had decided to include Shahriar Hossain, Hannan Sarker, Alok Kapali, Rajin Saleh, Mohammed Ashraful, Al Shahriar, Manzarul Islam Rana and Tareq

নানি ট্র্যান্সফার Chakra regis-

victory in the Western Union Premier Division

Football League when they

blanked a relegation-bound Dhanmondi Club 2-0 at the Sher-e-

Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur

time for Muktijoddha ahead of their

final league encounter against Brothers Union on Friday. The all-

mportant clash will determine

whether Brothers can lift their

maiden league title after missing out

The result improved the Redstally to 32 points from 17 games and

consolidated their position behind

leaders Brothers and second-placed

another nail in Dhanmondi's coffin.

Already condemned to the First

Division along with Badda Jagaroni,

the struggling club remained glued at

the bottom of the ten-team table

Belal gave Muktijoddha a 38th

minute lead when his trademark

On the other hand the defeat was

Sheikh Russell Krira Chakra.

with just three points.

The victory came at the right

Muktijoddha Sangsad Krira

tered their ninth

SPORTS REPORTER

Aziz Khan in the A side.

"The tour of Zimbabwe has been very frustrating so far. Only one Test match could be held properly and the players hardly had any chance to take the field. That's why we wanted to have them in the A squad," said

ZIMBABWE'S ITINERARY

Mar 12-14: 3-dayer against Bangladesh Under-23 (Fatullah) Mar 17-20: 4-dayer at Rajshahi. Mar23-26: 4-dayer at Bogra.

Mar 28: 1st limited-over match at Mar 30: 2nd limited-over match at Apr 2: 3rd limited-over match at Khulna. Apr 4: 4th limited-over match at

Apr 6: 5th limited-over match at Dhaka

long-throw-in from the right flank

rolled into the net after Dhanmondi

custodian Ratan failed to grab it

scored from a long throw after his famous goal against Mohammedan

Sporting Club in the first leg.

It was the second time Belal

Belal was also instrumental in his

side's second goal after the break. He

lobbed another long ball deep into the Dhanmondi box, which Mutiur

Munna headed home in the 69th

Club, which is still mourning the

murder of its president Khairul

Anwar Pieru, got in the game was in

the 11th minute when Muktijoddha

defender Din Mohammad almost

put the ball into his own net while

trying to clear an Al-Amin cross. But

his mistimed clearance went out

also struck the post in the 64th min-ute when his sudden right-footer

sailed over after hitting the cross-

piece that deny Muktijoddha a third

MUKTIJODDHA SANGSAD:

Titumir, Deen Mohammad, Prodip, Ghansa, Saiful (Lajuk),

Muktijoddha midfielder Biddyut

hitting the post.

TEAMS

The only chance Dhanmondi

Belal does it again

The former national skipper also said that a formidable A team was necessary, as the tourists will come with seven Test players.

There was room for some of the cricketers who had impressed in the recently concluded U-19 World Cup and the National Cricket

World Cup's top wicket-taker Enamul Haque Junior, young tearaway Shahadat Hossain Rajib his new ball partner Nazmul Hossain, wicket-keeper Dhiman Ghosh and opener Nafis Iqbal were the U-19 faces in the squad. Attacking batsman Aftab Ahmed was not considered as he is due to sit for the SSC examinations while fast bowler Talha Jubair and U-19 captain Ashiqur Rahman were overlooked because of injuries, informed Faruque.

Kaboa, Biddyut, Belal (Tipu), Munna, Lulenti and Kanchan.

DHANMONDI CLUB: Ratan, Abul,

Selim, Rabiul, Donald, Kennedy, Al

Amin (Ponsh), Nazmul and Sohag

In the first match of the day, Yousuf

struck twice as Dhaka Wanderers

came from behind to score a 2-1 win

17th minute but Yousuf salvaged

Wanderers scoring in the 47th and

priceless points to stay away from the dreaded relegation zone. Wanderers,

who are fighting with Victoria Sporting Club for their Premier

League survival, improved their chances by raising their tally to 22

17 points playing one match less. But

Victoria face an uphill task of beating

Mohammedan and Arambagh in

their next two games if they are to

avoid becoming the third team to go

On the other hand, Victoria have

Sohel put Arambagh ahead in the

The victory gave Wanderers three

against Arambagh Krira Sangsad.

(Bindu), Maruf and Aziz.

WANDERERS OWE

67th minute respectively.

points from 17 matches.

down from the elite league.

Referee: Azad Rahman

YOUSUFONE

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CCDM sits on **Premier League**

SPORTS REPORTER

The meeting of Cricket Committee of Dhaka Metropolis (CCDM) ended yesterday without any decision on when the Premier Division Cricket League would start.

"The meeting has been adjourned till March 11. But we are determined to start the Premier Division League from first week of April under single league format," said CCDM chairman Khandokar

He informed that they failed to reach a decision because club representatives wanted to more time to get ready for the inter-club transfer, which is supposed to start in the mid-March.

It was learnt that most of the clubs were reluctant to play without the national cricketers and also in March-April, which is dominated by

Windies bowler has suspect action

SPORTINGLIFE

Rookie Jamaican pace bowler Dwight Washington, who has been selected in West Indies' 16-man squad for the first Test against England, has been reported for having a suspect bowling action.

The 20-year-old, who played for the West Indies B team in the Carib Beer Regional Cricket competition and captured 20 wickets at an average of just over 20, is one of six bowlers under scrutiny.

"I can confirm that umpires in the regional tournament submitted reports and Washington's action was called into question," a source close to the West Indies Cricket Board (WICB) said.

When asked why he was selected in the West Indies squad with a suspect action, the source said: "The West Indies 16 was named before the reports from the umpires came into the board."

Last year against Australia, West Indian fast-bowling sensation Jermaine Lawson was reported to the ICC for having a suspect bowling action. Lawson is now on the rebound

and seems to have corrected his bowling action sufficiently and has featured in the two warm-up games that the touring English team has played to date.

23 BD chess players in **India** meet

SPORTS REPORTER

A total of 23 players from Bangladesh will participate in the second Parsvnath International Rating Chess Tournament that begins tomorrow in Delhi.

The players are GM Niaz Murshed, IM Enamul Hossain Rajib, IM Abdullah Al Rakib, FM Sheikh Nasir Ahmed, FM Abu Sufian Shakil, FM Khandakar Aminul Islam, IWM Rani Hamid, Shwkat Hossain Pollab, Mehdi Hasan Parag, Abdul Maleq, Manjur Alam, Debaraj Chettarjee, Mohammad Javed, Arman Monir, Masuda Begum, Afroza Khanam Bably, Mohammad Ali, Mahmuda Haque Chowdhury Moly, Feroza Haque Chowdhury Poppy and Saimon Siddiqur Rahman.

The tournament will be held according to Swiss League system.

'They were too attacking'

REUTERS, Galle

Muttiah Muralitharan believes Australia's batsmen paid the penalty for an over-aggressive approach as the tourists were bowled out for 220 on the first day of a three-match Test series on

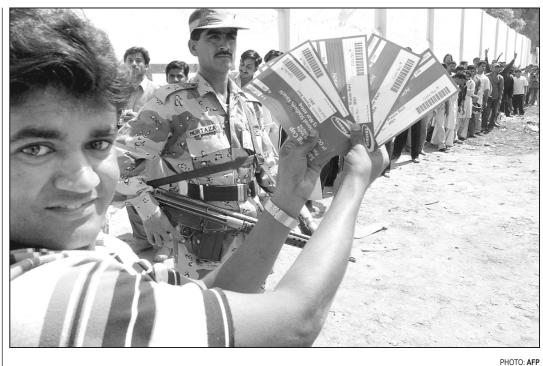
The spin bowler ripped through Australia's formidable batting lineup, taking six for 59 in 21.3 overs, the 40th time in his 86-match career that he has taken five wickets in an innings

It was Muralitharan's best figures against Australia, surpassing the five for 71 at the same venue in 1999 and he rated the performance as the fourth best of his

"The wicket was spinning but very slow and they were very posi-tive -- that helped me take a few wickets," Muralitharan told report-

"That is their plan. Sometimes it works, sometimes it doesn't.

"If the batsmen are attacking, it This means New Zealand spin is a good sign for me. Most of the time the bowler will win because you cannot keep on attacking."



A fan displays the tickets he purchased for the first one-day international between Pakistan and India while others wait for their turn in Karachi yesterday.

Tickets snapped up

REUTERS/AFP, Karachi



Tickets for the first one-day international between Pakistan and India sold out within hours of sales being resumed on

Monday.

Things went smoothly when booths reopened on Monday morning and it took just a few hours for more than 21,000 tickets to be snatched up.

"Everything has gone well day," said Zakir Khan, the Pakistan Cricket Board's general manager for cricket operations. "We sold tickets from five other

spots in the city apart from the booths at the stadium and that "We are happy this process is over because what happened on Sunday was most unfortunate," Khan said.

Ticket sales for Saturday's match at the National Stadium in Karachi were suspended after clashes between some of the thou-

sands seeking tickets and police. "Sales have shaped up smoothly after we increased the number of outlets for the tickets," said Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) chief executive Rameez Raja.

"We have now put on sales of low-priced tickets at 100 rupees (about two dollars) each at five different grounds to distribute the There has been an unusual

interest in Saturday's match because bitter rivals India will be playing in Pakistan for the first time since September 1997. The opening day when tickets ent on sale, saw dozens of people,

frustrated that only three counters

were selling tickets, pelted police

with stones, triggering baton charges by security forces Several people were injured in the mayhem but none was seri-

One of the ticket sellers said demand was so high that "latecomers will not get tickets.

ously hurt.

The National Stadium has a capacity of 33,000. Around 20 per cent of tickets have already been sold through the Internet.

Saturday's match is the only opportunity for Karachi's fans to watch India as it has been eliminated as a venue for Test matches because of security concerns.

BCCI to invite **VVIPs** to see historic series

PTI, New Delhi

invite Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Deputy Prime Minister L K Ádvani and Congress chief Sonia Gandhi to watch the historic Indo-Pak cricket series in Pakistan. A formal invitation would be extended to the three leaders when

The Indian cricket board is keen to

BCCI president Jagmohan Dalmiva, who is currently in New Zealand to attend an International Cricket Council executive committee meeting, returns to the country Chairman of BCCI's

Communication and Coordination Committee Rajiv Shukla said on Shukla said Rahul Gandhi,

Privanka and her husband Robert Vadhra have accepted the invitation of BCCI and would be going to Pakistan to watch either the first match in Karachi or the second match in Rawalpindi.

The Pakistan Cricket Board has been informed about their visit and all the arrangements have been made, Shukla said.

Aussies in Murali maze

Warne's comeback wicket

Cricket

REUTERS, Galle

Spin wizard Muttiah Muralitharan took his 40th five-wicket haul as Australia were bowled out for 220 on the opening day of the first Test against Sri Lanka on Monday. The hosts closed on 81 for one

off 22 overs in reply with Shane Warne taking the sole wicket to fall on his return from a 12-month drugs ban. Muralitharan ripped through Australia's batting to finish with figures of six for 59 from 21.3 overs,

ets in his 86th Test. Australian middle-order batsman Darren Lehmann provided the main resistance on his return to the national side after an Achilles injury with a battling 63.

taking his career tally to 491 wick-

Lehmann added 72 for the fourth wicket with Damien Martyn (42) and a useful 53 for the seventh wicket with fellow returnee Warne

Australia's hopes of building a big total were dashed when they

suffered a mid-afternoon collapse, losing three wickets for 15 runs, and then a dramatic post-tea slump during which the last four wickets fell for five runs in the space of 13 balls.

Sri Lanka openers Sanath Jayasuriya (35) and Marvan



WARNE ... 492nd Test wkt

Atapattu (29 not out) then added 53 for the first wicket before Jayasuriya missed a sweep and was

trapped lbw by Warne.

It was Warne's 492nd Test wicket. The tourists, who elected to bat,

opener edged an attempted square cut to wicketkeeper Kumar Sangakkara, who held on to the catch at the second attempt. Fellow opener Matthew Hayden enjoyed some good fortune in the first hour as Sri Lanka's only pace-

lost Justin Langer for 12 after the

man Chaminda Vaas spilled a difficult return catch off his bowl-ing when the left-hander had Hayden was eventually dismissed for 41 when he miscued a

sweep off Muralitharan to square leg fieldsman Upul Chandana, who sprinted to his left to make a sharp Ricky Ponting, who had started positively with four quick bound-

aries, was then stumped for 21 after

being lured down the track by a

well-flighted Chandana leg break to leave Australia in trouble on 76 for three. Lehmann and Martyn repaired

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Sri Lanka's ace off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan (2nd from right) leads his teammates off the pitch after claiming 6-59 in Australia's first innings on the opening day of the first Test in Galle yesterday.

BSFNA cricket RU CORRESPONDENT

Jubo Cricket Academy A defeated Katakhali Cricket Academy by seven wickets in quarterfinals of

the Bangladesh Sports Foundation of North America (BSFNA) cricket tournament at the Rajshahi college playground yes-

Cricket Academy decided to bat first and they made 139 before being all out in 44 overs. Jubo CA reached the target scoring 143-3 in Jubo Academy all-rounder

Winning the toss, Katakhali

Farhad was later adjudged man-of-DC Cup soccer

Pabna Zilla Dal defeated Rangpur Zilla Dal 3-1 in the Deputy Commissioner Gold Cup football tournament at the Gaibandha Stadium yesterday.

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha

Likhan, Aftab and Bipplob netted one each for Pabna while Milon scored a consolation goal for

Hamilton turns spin-friendly

NZ-SA 1st Test tomorrow

Cricket

AFP, Hamilton

after delivering a lecture at the National Cricket Academy in Lahore, Pakistan on March 7.

Unseasonal heavy rainfall has turned the pitch for the first Test match between New Zealand and South Africa into a spin bowler's paradise.

LEGEND'S ADVICE: Pakistan bowling great Fazal Mehmood (L) shares a light moment with speedster Shoaib Akhtar

New Zealand usually offers infamously green and slow pitches but heavy rain last month, five times the February average, has killed the grass on the Hamilton wicket and left turf manager Karl Johnson with a headache.

Johnson had to abandon his preferred test pitch and shift to a strip on the far side of the scarred block which has never been played on but which still had a tinge of

"I'm reasonably happy where

have done it if I wasn't confident,' "It's one of the toughest things

test match and having to produce a pitch that hasn't been played on before." Johnson opted for the back-up pitch because it was made from a different kind of clay to that used in

He said he hoped it would last five days but said the ball would scuff up quicker than normal, meaning the quicker bowlers will be less effective and two spinners

SEE PAGE 14 COL 1

we're at. It has been a tough ask and it's a big call to do it, but I wouldn't

I've had to face, being my second

the pitches in the middle of the

each would seem likely.