



Did U Know?

India, after a gap of 24 years, have won a Test series against Pakistan. The last Test series win for India over Pakistan was by a margin of 2-0 in 1979-80.



What to Watch

- ESPN**
Sri Lanka vs Zimbabwe
First ODI
Live at 1:20 pm
Sportscentre
Sport News
Live at 9:00 pm
UEFA Champions League
Monaco vs Chelsea
Live at 12:30 am (Wednesday)
- STAR Sports**
Monaco Tennis Masters Series
First Round
Live at 2:00 pm
Sportline
Sport News
Live at 8:00 pm
English Premier Football League
Man United vs Charlton Athletic
Live at 12:55 am (Wednesday)



Talk Turkey



Andy Roddick
(American tennis star)
"I got to Number One in the world without being really a complete player."

Star WHIZZ KID COMPETITION 210
Tick the correct answers, post to The Daily Star. Win attractive prizes.
Competition closes at 8 pm April 23, 2004 and draw shortly afterwards

- How many gold medals did Bangladesh win in the recently concluded SAF Games?
5 4 3
- Who is the coach of Chelsea?
Eriksson Wenger Ranieri
- What is the title of the official Euro 2004 song?
Forma Forza Forca
- Who clinched the WTA Key Biscayne title?
Venus Henin Serena
- What was the score of the India-Pakistan one-day series?
.....

Name
Class Roll No.
School Address
Phone: (If any)

Nat'l jr chess

SPORTS REPORTER
Mehdi Hasan Parag and Mohammad Ali jointly shared the lead with five points each after the end of the fifth round games in the 25th National Junior Chess Championship at the federation hall room yesterday.
Masum Hossain and Nahid Parvez were in the second position with 4.5 points each.
In this round Parag beat Shaheen, Ali beat Mahtabuddin Robin, Masum beat Mahfuzur Rahman, Nahid beat Golam Mostafa Bhuiyan, Sagar beat Rafiqul Islam, Shimmi beat Anwar Hossain Kahar, Sabber beat Kiswara Shajin Evana, Uzzal beat Imitiaz Shamim, Dalim beat Mosleuddin and Ashraf beat Tarf Jana.



Bangladesh coach Dav Whatmore (L) takes questions from reporters during a press conference, organised to announce the squad for the West Indies tour, at Hotel Sheraton yesterday.

Selectors' spin plot

Cricket
SPORTS REPORTER
Chief selector Faruque Ahmed said that he went against the conventional thinking by picking more spinners for Bangladesh's first tour of the West Indies starting next month.
Traditionally a visit to the Caribbean, which is renowned for its faster tracks, intimidates a touring team to pack its attack with as many pacers as possible. But Faruque and his three colleagues including coach Dav Whatmore have gone against the grain by selecting a lot of spinners.
"We have taken into consideration the condition of the wickets in the Caribbean. But as we do not have quality pacers, we decided to concentrate on spin. At least we know that West Indian batsmen have showed weakness against slow bowling," said Faruque while announcing the squads for the two Tests and three one-day internationals at a local hotel yesterday.
The selectors as predicted picked uncapped left-arm spinner Abdur Razzak and southpaw Faisal Hossain, also a slow left-armed, in the 15-man one-day squad.

The axe fell on experienced left-arm pacesman Monjurul Islam and attacking right-hand batsman Al-Shahriar. The pair failed to perform up to the expectations in Bangladesh's tour of Zimbabwe in February-March.
The chief selector spoke highly of Razzak, who the former national captain thought, could complement the country's top bowler Mohammad Rafique.
"Monju was not considered because we were looking for a spinner. And I think Razzak was the best available choice for us. Al Shahriar was ignored because he did not qualify for the best six batsmen we have chosen for the series," said Faruque adding that rookie Faisal got the nod by scoring heavily both in the National League and against the touring Zimbabwe A team.
The selectors have also recalled Javed Omar. The experienced opener, along with Alamgir Kabir and young left-arm spinner Enamul Haque, will join the team for the two Tests after the one-day series. But he did not disclose the names of the three players who will return home after completing the one-day duties.
Whatmore also endorsed Faruque's spin-pronged attack and wanted to draw inspiration from the success of Zimbabwean left-arm spinner Raymond Price, who took 20 odd wickets against Brain Lara's new-look team.
The 50-year-old Australian also said that he was not worried about West Indies having a number of left-handed batsmen.
"We have got good players and whether they bowl off-spin or

Cricket going corporate

SPORTS REPORTER
Cricketers will finally get into action when the first-ever GrameenPhone Corporate Cricket League (CCL) kicks off at the Bangabandhu National Stadium today.
Pre-tournament favourites Bashundhara Group, led by former national skipper Akram Khan, are pitted against understrength Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation (BADC) Kirira Sangha in the 50-over opening contest.
Thirteen teams have been split into two groups for what should prove to be a money-spinning event, after the Cricket Committee of Dhaka Metropolitan (CCDM) failed to convince the leading clubs of the capital to take part in the Dhaka Leagues this season.
The top three finishers of each group will feature in the Cup stage while the rest will contest the Plate championship.
The organisers were confident of a successful competition, which involves a total of 65 league matches, within a month.
"Our budget to run the league is



GrameenPhone's DGM of sales and marketing Galib Ahmed Ansari (L) briefs the press about the Corporate Cricket League during a press conference at a city hotel yesterday.

Inzamam stays put

Cricket
REUTERS/CRICINFO, Karachi
Inzamamul Haq will remain as Pakistan captain despite the Test and one-day series defeats to India.
Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) chairman Shaharyar Khan said the PCB had confidence in Inzamam's leadership skills and he would continue in the post for the rest of the year.
"We had appointed him as captain for the year 2004 to introduce some consistency and continuity in the team and also to give him confidence. We will stick by that policy," Khan told Reuters on Monday.
Pakistan have had 14 captaincy changes involving nine players in the last 10 years. Inzamam, 34, is Pakistan's second captain since the World Cup in February-March 2003.
Speculation had been rife in local media that, following the series defeat to arch-rivals India, the board would make wholesale changes to the team. The positions of captain and coach were believed to be on the line.
Meanwhile, coach Javed Miandad has threatened to quit his post if the team management is fiddled around with too much.
Talking to the Press Trust of India, Miandad said: "I am sure that this team has the potential to bounce back, and I can guide this team to improve, but I will quit if there are major shake-ups in the team management."
Miandad, shaken and stirred by the defeats to India, has been roundly criticised in Pakistan for his alleged unprofessional approach as a coach, and the indiscipline of his bowlers and fielders.
"To appoint a bowling coach or a fielding coach is the PCB's decision," he said, "but major changes are not advisable... We need time to mull this team."
Miandad's contract as Pakistan's coach expires at the end of this month. This is his third stint at

AFC Cup Reds bolstered by guests

SPORTS REPORTER
Injury-hit Muktiyoddha Sangsad Kirira Chakra have strengthened their side by hiring star names from fellow Dhaka giants as they bid to record their first win in the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) Cup.
The defending National Football League and Federation Cup champions have included Abahani's tireless midfielder Arif Khan Joy and left back Mahmudul Hassan, Mohamedan's Cameroonian playmaker Kisito Afala and Premier League champions Brothers Union's central defender Mohammad Sujan for today's Group A first round home tie against Yemen's Al Shabb lbb.
The match kicks off at 5pm at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur.
This will be the first meeting between the two clubs after the Mukti failed to travel to Yemen to play in the away fixture early this month due to travel related complications.
The Reds are already out of contention for a second round berth after identical 1-0 defeats against group rivals Nejmeh of Lebanon (at home) and Nissa of Turkmenistan (away).
Al Shabb arrived in Dhaka early yesterday morning. They were due on Sunday but missed the scheduled flight from Doha. The team had their only practice session at the venue yesterday afternoon.
Al Shabb's custodian Sadat Akram Arabi, one of the three national booters in the side, told reporters at Hotel Purbani yesterday that they have very little idea about their opponents.
"We lost to Nejmeh 3-0 and have heard that Muktiyoddha conceded

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Nadif action suspect

SPORTS REPORTER
Bangladesh's young left-arm spinner Nadif Chowdhury has been reported for suspect action during the U/19 Cricket World Cup in Bangladesh in February - March this year.
The International Cricket Council (ICC)'s technical committee on bowling found six cricketers with questionable actions. Nadif is the only Bangladeshi bowler in the list informed Bangladesh Cricket Board's Cricket Committee chairman Mahub Anam yesterday.

U-21 Asia Cup hockey Bangladesh open campaign today

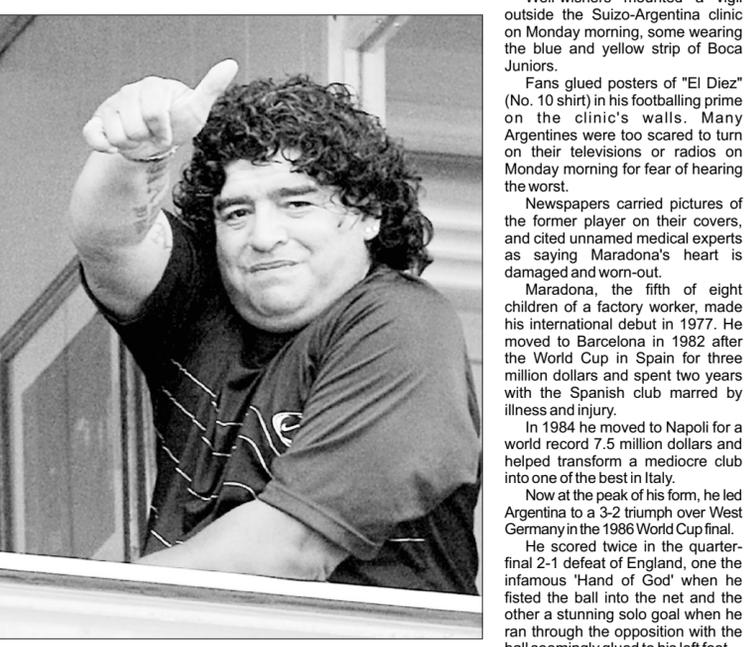
SPORTS REPORTER
Bangladesh launch their 5th Under-21 Asia Cup hockey tournament campaign when they take on formidable China in Karachi today.
Forward Ashrafur Islam Shishu, who plays for Abahani, will lead the Bangladesh team in the tournament which is the qualifying meet for the Junior World Cup.
Bangladesh have been placed in Group B along with giants India, Malaysia, China and Sri Lanka, while Group A comprises South Korea, Pakistan, Japan, Chinese Taipei and Singapore.
Top three teams in the tourney will earn the right to play in the World Cup billed for next year.
Bangladesh will meet Malaysia on April 21, Sri Lanka on April 23 and India the next day.

India's cricket tour boosts relations

AFP, Karachi
India's landmark cricket tour of Pakistan, their first across the border in 15 years, will not only help Pakistan cricket but will play a key role in strengthening relations, an official said Monday.
"India's historic tour will have multiple effects, both cricket-wise as well as relationship-wise and both countries can build on it in the future," Pakistan Cricket Board chairman Shaharyar Khan told this news agency.
"The tour began against the backdrop of political tension, security fears and hostility... but this landmark tour has removed all misconceptions," said Khan, a former foreign secretary and High Commissioner to India.
The South Asian nuclear rivals opened a new innings of peace after Indian Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee's offered a "hand of friendship" to Pakistan 12 months ago.

Maradona critically ill

Football
REUTERS, Buenos Aires
Argentina's Diego Maradona, one of the most gifted players in soccer history, remains in intensive care in a Buenos Aires clinic after being admitted with heart and breathing problems.
Family doctor Alfredo Cahe, however, denied reports that Maradona had taken an overdose of cocaine -- an addiction to which the player has been battling for the last decade and has left him a bloated shadow of his former self.
"It is not related to an overdose," Cahe told local radio on Monday.
"Lately Maradona was not (consuming) cocaine."
"I wouldn't say his condition is extreme. His condition is reserved. He arrived at hospital in a serious state with breathing difficulty and a swollen heart. He was very feverish."
A clinic official said doctors would issue an update on Maradona's condition at midday.
Late on Sunday Maradona, 43, was breathing with the help of a respirator. He had been taken to hospital after watching a game at his former club Boca Juniors' stadium.
Maradona's official website www.diegomaradona.com said the former Argentine captain was taken ill while eating a traditional barbecue after watching Boca Juniors play at the Bombonera Stadium in Buenos Aires where he made his name.
Well-wishers mounted a vigil outside the Suizo-Argentina clinic on Monday morning, some wearing the blue and yellow strip of Boca Juniors.
Fans glued posters of "El Diez" (No. 10 shirt) in his footballing prime on the clinic's walls. Many Argentines were too scared to turn on their televisions or radios on Monday morning for fear of hearing the worst.
Newspapers carried pictures of the former player on their covers, and cited unnamed medical experts as saying Maradona's heart is damaged and worn-out.
Maradona, the fifth of eight children of a factory worker, made his international debut in 1977. He moved to Barcelona in 1982 after the World Cup in Spain for three million dollars and spent two years with the Spanish club marred by illness and injury.
In 1984 he moved to Napoli for a world record 7.5 million dollars and helped transform a mediocre club into one of the best in Italy.
Now at the peak of his form, he led Argentina to a 3-2 triumph over West Germany in the 1986 World Cup final.
He scored twice in the quarter-final 2-1 defeat of England, one the infamous 'Hand of God' when he fisted the ball into the net and the other a stunning solo goal when he ran through the opposition with the ball seemingly glued to his left foot.



IN BETWEEN LIFE AND DEATH: Argentine soccer legend Diego Maradona greets supporters before the start of the Boca Juniors-Nueva Chicago match in Buenos Aires on April 18. After the game Maradona was hospitalised.

Read sixers win 1st ODI

Cricket
REUTERS/AFP, Georgetown
Wicketkeeper Chris Read was England's saviour on Sunday as his three late sixes helped the tourists beat West Indies by two wickets in a thrilling opening to the one-day international series.
In a match reduced to 30 overs per side due to heavy rain in the run-up to the game, Read smashed 27 off 15 balls before Darren Gough hit the winning runs to see England to their target of 157 with three balls to spare.
Chasing West Indies' total of 156 for five, England looked out of it as they slipped from 60 for two to 120 for seven.
But Read, dropped from the Test side ahead of the final match in Antigua, responded in style as he smashed three sixes and a four before Gough saw England home.
"I have been in a few of those situations before," Read said. "I just thought if the ball was in the slot I'd give it a go, and thankfully it worked."
England captain Michael Vaughan acknowledged that Read had saved his side's blushes.
On a pitch that had been virtually under water 24 hours before, Vaughan won the toss and put West Indies into bat.
Gough, recalled to the side, showed few signs of rust with a tight opening spell and made the early breakthrough, bowling Chris Gayle for two with just seven runs on the board.
A slightly wayward Steve Harmison made way for Andrew Flintoff and he made immediate inroads.
With his second ball, Flintoff caught and bowled Ricardo Powell for 10 and then removed Ramnaresh Sarwan, standing in as captain for the injured Brian Lara, for a duck just two balls later to leave West Indies reeling on 25 for three.
Chanderpaul and Devon Smith added 39 for the fourth wicket before the latter was caught by Flintoff at short midwicket off Rikki Clarke for 16.
But while others struggled, Chanderpaul, recalled to the side after missing the final Test, hit 11 fours and two sixes, including 17 off Paul Collingwood's only over, before he was fifth man out for 84.
Flintoff and Gough both finished with figures of two for 22 from their six overs.
In reply, England made a terrible start when Vaughan was bowled by Mervyn Dillon for a third-ball duck.
With West Indies giving away too many extras, Marcus Trescothick and Andrew Strauss added 59 for the second wicket before Strauss



England's Chris Read, who smashed a winning 27 off 15 balls, hits West Indies bowler Cory Collimore for a four during the first ODI in Georgetown on April 18.