




### Did U Know?

The 2002 London Marathon went down in history as the fastest ever after records tumbled in both the men's and women's events.



OMPETITION 21

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

Competition closes at 8 pm  
May 21, 2004 and draw  
shortly afterwards

1. Who is Bangladesh's fastest woman?  
Iva    Chumki    Sabrina

2. Who is Zimbabwe's cricket captain?  
Taibu    Streak    Olonga

3. Name the man-of-the-series in the India-Pakistan Test series:  
Sehwag    Dravid    Kumble

4. How many runs did Brian Lara score in the first innings of the final Test against England?  
400    388    380


5. Who won the Singer 30th national

Name .....

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

School Address .....

Phone: (If any) .....



### TALK TURKEY



**Tim May**  
(Former Australia Test cricket)  
"There must be quality controls to maintain the standard of Test cricket. This crisis in Zimbabwe makes cricket look stupid."  
**While urging ICC to take urgent action to resolve Zimbabwe's player dispute.**



**ESPN**  
Sportscentre  
Sports programme  
Live at 8.30 pm

**STAR Sports**  
Sri Lanka v Zimbabwe  
Second Test, Day 1  
Live at 1.50 pm

**Sportsline**  
Sports News  
Live at 9 pm

**Gazipur in zonal final**  
**SPORTS REPORTER**  
Hosts Gazipur moved into the zonal final when they dumped Kishoreganj out of the Sher-e



ARAF Apparels' Pakistani recruit Fahadullah, who scored a century, here pulls one for four during his side's GrameenPhone Corporate Cricket League clash against Beximco at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

## Incredible run-feast

### SPORTS REPORTER

Pakistani Fahadullah smashed a terrific century and Halim Shah for a change moved from being a lethargic scorer with a pugnacious half-century as ARAF Apparels posted a 16-run victory against Beximco in a high-scoring drama at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

ARAF's win left the Group Y race for the Cup semifinals in the GrameenPhone Corporate Cricket League wide open.

Fahadullah whacked a run-a-ball 106 and Halim hit an explosive 76 off 58 balls in a massive ARAF total of 306, the second highest score after Gazi Tank's 329-6 against BADC in the first-ever cricket competition for corporate houses in the country.

But limited-overs cricket was at its best at the big bowl again when a

never-say-die Beximco, who topped Bangladesh Biman's 286 at the same venue on Tuesday, ran tantalisingly close before falling at 290-9.

Kenyan star batsman Steve Tikolo led the brave chase for Beximco with a stroke-filled 91 off 64 balls. But his dismissal effectively dashed Beximco's hopes of yet another turn around as there was no late fireworks from Masudur Rahman, the number eight batsman who struck a match-winning 49 against Biman.

Beximco, who finished their two group matches with a win against a defeat, will now wait with their fingers crossed for an ARAF victory against Biman on May 15 in the last group fixture.

A win for Biman on the other hand, will bring all three teams level on two points, leaving the issue of two semifinalists from the group to net-run-rate.

Fahad enlivened the BNS even before the mercury went up. The right-hander cut loose once

Beximco captain Azam Iqbal invited ARAF to bat.

He put on 115 runs for the first wicket with Golam Mabud (40). Fahad cracked ten fours and three sixes to score for his first and the League's fourth ton.

It was then the turn of Halim to take the thunder from where Fahad had left off. Coming into bat at number five Halim, better known as a grafter, helped the side cross the 300-mark with a superb 76. His knock was studded with seven fours and a six before he was run out off the final ball of the innings.

It was however a mixed bag for the ARAF captain as he was later handed fined Tk 4,000 by match referee for intentionally delaying the Beximco innings. Match referee Dipu Roy Chowdhury deemed that there was a 20-minute delay in the Beximco innings without enough reasons.

SEE PAGE 14 COL 4

## Hasibul has successful head op

### SPORTS REPORTER

Young wicketkeeper Hasibul Haque Babel had a successful head operation on Wednesday night at the city's Ibn Sina Hospital, Bangladesh Cricket Board advisor Mahub Anam said yesterday.

The 18-year-old stumper from Khulna received a head injury during a net session in his hometown on April 8 and lay unconscious for three days.

"The board took care of the whole affair and the surgeon has informed us that the surgery was successful. We hope that he will make quick recovery," Anam informed.

### BD-WICB XI SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the one-day practice match between Bangladesh and West Indies Cricket Board XI at St Vincent on Wednesday:

**WICB XI**

W Hinds c Manjarul b Mahmud 17  
Wilkinson c Manjarul b Mushfiq 1  
Joseph c Bashar b Mahmud 22  
Simmons c Mashud b Mahmud 0  
R Hinds c Mushfiq b Manjarul 48  
Richards c Ashraf b Rafique 4  
Baugh c Rafique b Manjarul 16  
Ramdin lbw b Manjarul 1  
Washington c Ashraf b Manjarul 10  
Collins b Rafique 0  
Lawson not out 2  
Extras: (lb-6, w-6, nb-2) 14  
Total: (All out in 45.3 overs) 135  
Fall of wickets: 1-7, 2-39, 3-40, 4-47, 5-54, 6-83, 7-88, 8-116, 9-122

**Bowler**

|         | O  | M | R  | W |
|---------|----|---|----|---|
| Baisya  | 8  | 1 | 29 | 0 |
| Mushfiq | 8  | 0 | 31 | 1 |
| Mahmud  | 10 | 2 | 33 | 3 |

SEE PAGE 14 COL 1



**GP Corporate Cricket League CUP GROUP**  
Partex v Basundhara  
Venue: BNS

**PLATE 1ST SEMIFINAL**  
Aktel v Gazi Tank  
Venue: Fatullah Stadium

## SL coming on November 8

### SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh Cricket Board yesterday confirmed the itinerary of Sri Lanka's tour of Bangladesh in November this year.

Sri Lanka, in their first full tour, will play two Tests and three one-day internationals. They will arrive in Dhaka on November 8.

**SCHEDULE**  
**Nov 10:** 1st ODI (D/N) at Dhaka  
**Nov 11:** 2nd ODI (D/N) at Dhaka  
**Nov 14:** 3rd ODI at Chittagong  
**Nov 18-22:** 1st Test at Chittagong  
**Nov 25-29:** 2nd Test at Dhaka  
**Nov 30:** Departure.

## No Youhana for Partex

### SPORTS REPORTER

Partex Group will not get the services of Yousuf Youhana in today's crucial GrameenPhone Corporate Cricket League match against Bashundhara.

The Pakistani vice-captain was scheduled to arrive here last night. But due to a passport related complication he failed to make the trip.

Partex are in a must win situation to qualify for the Cup semifinals

SEE PAGE 14 COL 1

## Calypso Cocktail

### Cricket

#### RABEED IMAM from St Vincent

With a victory in the tour opener to boost their spirit, Bangladesh came out all guns blazing in the joint official press conference too when coach Dav Whatmore and captain Habibul Bashar handled the local media in clinical fashion on Thursday.

The press briefing was arranged by Cable and Wireless, the official sponsors of the series, at the picturesque New Haddon Hotel, which rests on the lap of a mountain as does most structures in St.Vincent. But the Tigers coach and captain were in no mood to be won over by the scenery.

When one local journalist asked whether Bangladesh were intimidated by the West Indies, Whatmore took him on.

"It's always a case of the opposition being complacent whenever we win or do well. And the opposition is always guarding against complacency when they are facing us. Look, we were desperately unlucky not to win the series against Zimbabwe and we have run teams very, very close over the last year and all of them surely weren't complacent," said Whatmore.

Another scribe asked Bashar if he thought that Bangladesh should

be playing emerging nations more rather than Test teams.

"What good will that do for us? I don't think that way at all. You don't improve by playing against weaker teams," answered Bashar.

### YOU'RE GONNA WIN

Right after Tigers' warm-up game against the West Indies Board XI ended, the two umpires were found 'chilling it out' at a small shack cum bar by the roadside in Amos Vale.

"You know your boys chatted a lot in the ground and couldn't understand a word of it. It's not sledging but still petty unnerving for the opposition," quipped one of the officials.

**HIS PARTNER JOINED IN**

"People in this island are saying that Bangladesh will make history. They will win the series and that is possible, more so with Lara not coming. You get Gayle out and you genuinely have a chance."

All over Amos Vale and Kingstown, locals are of the belief that Bangladesh have what it takes to beat the West Indies.

One spectator at the ground on Wednesday was watching the seventh wicket pair of Khaled Mashud and Mushfiqur Rahman batting beautifully under pressure and got hold of team manager Faruque Ahmed.

SEE PAGE 14 COL 3

## High performance BCB

### Cricket

#### SPORTS REPORTER

In a bid to raising the performance levels of its cricketers to international standards, the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) has decided to launch a high performance training programme later this month.

The Board has named 24 cricketers to take part in the programme, which starts with a video analysis programme on May 22. The first batch begins training a week later at the Savar-based BKSP.

"The programme has been designed in line with our future programmes and hopefully it will

make our cricketers more competitive," BCB advisor Mahmud Anam told a press conference at the Bangabandhu National Stadium conference room yesterday.

BCB's development committee chairman Arafat Rahman, CEO Macky Dudhia and Australian coach Richard McInnes, who will be in charge of the scheme, were also present.

"We have to be tough in setting high standards and it is the only way to achieve our goal," said Dudhia.

McInnes will be assisted by specialist local and foreign coaches during the training programme, which includes skill mediation and application in batting, bowling, fielding, education in language, computer, health and nutrition,

strength and conditioning training, tactical awareness and psychological skill development.

"We want to prepare the youngsters so that they can handle the pressures of international cricket at the age of 22-23. We will also run a pace bowler search programme," said McInnes, who coached the Bangladesh U-19 team at the Youth World Cup.

"The players have been selected based on ability, attitude and long-term potential to serve Bangladesh in both Test and one-day cricket. The squad will be reviewed every six months to add or remove players. Any national player not part of a series or cricketers returning from

SEE PAGE 14 COL 4



Bangladesh Cricket Board chief executive officer Macky Dudhia briefs reporters during a press conference at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

## Second Test from today

### Cricket

#### REUTERS, Harare

Off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan will be bidding to increase his world record wicket tally as Sri Lanka look to heap further misery on a second-string Zimbabwe team when the second Test starts in Bulawayo on Friday.

Muralitharan became Test cricket's highest wicket-taker in the first match in Harare when he surpassed West Indian fast bowler Courtney Walsh's mark of 519 victims.

Eight wickets over two innings

gave the controversial bowler a haul of 521 as Sri Lanka ruthlessly punished a hapless Zimbabwe team to win by an innings and 240 runs.

Zimbabwe, who were also white-washed 5-0 in the one-dayers, had to field a weakened line-up after 15 experienced players made themselves unavailable in a dispute with the Zimbabwe Cricket Union, which fired the rebels this week.

"The guys are in good spirits even though we got beaten pretty well, and they're looking to this Test match to improve," Zimbabwe coach Geoff Marsh told this news agency on Thursday.

Marsh said Zimbabwe's batting was of particular concern.

In the only change for the home side, medium-pacer Blessing Mahwire has been replaced by batsman Vusi Sibanda for the Bulawayo match.

Mahwire was reported for a suspect action after the first Test and, although he remains available for selection, has been kept out of the spotlight.

Muralitharan has also fallen foul of cricket's laws on throwing, most recently because of his doosra delivery, which turns away from right-handed batsmen.

Although the doosra helped Muralitharan reach his personal landmark last week, reports suggest

SEE PAGE 14 COL 4

written to us that they would be interested should ICC decide to shift its base to a Test-playing country.

"There is a possibility that we may have our headquarters somewhere in London but for us London will be like any other city if we move out of Lord's which has been our base since 1909.

"At present we have two offices --

one at Lord's and the other at Monaco (for tax purposes) -- and we would like to have both offices working under one roof," he added.

"We have just come back from Kuala Lumpur and we were looking at various aspects in a particular city. First and foremost is the cricket culture there (to consider), security

SEE PAGE 14 COL 1



Sheikh Nasir Ahmed (L) makes a move against K Visweswaran of India during their IM Chess Tournament at the NSC Chess Room yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR