



## Did U Know?

Mark Spitz from USA won seven gold medals at the Munich Games in 1972, and won them all in world record time.



## What to Watch

### BTV

Asia Cup Cricket  
India vs Pakistan  
Live at 2:45 pm

### ESPN

Asia Cup Cricket  
India vs Pakistan  
Preview  
Live at 1:30 pm

Asia Cup Cricket  
India vs Pakistan  
Live at 2:45 pm

Review  
Live at 10:30 pm

England vs West Indies  
First Test, Day Four  
Same Day Delay at 11:30 pm

### STAR Sports

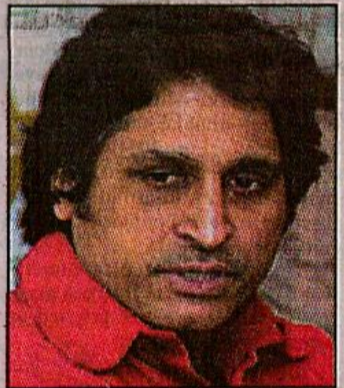
Asia Cup Cricket  
India vs Pakistan  
Live at 2:45 pm

### TEN Sports

Copa America Final  
Brazil vs Argentina  
Live at 1:45 am (Monday)



## Talk Turkey



## Rameez Raja

(PCB chief executive)  
"He is there to change the culture and thinking in the team and to make it a more professional outfit. We are prepared to give him time to get results."  
On coach Bob Woolmer.

## FIBA-Asia b'ball Bangladesh third

BSS, Dhaka

Bangladesh cagers won the wooden spoon as they clinched the third spot defeating Afghanistan 83-67 in the qualifying round of the FIBA-Asia Basketball Championship at the Dhanmondi Basketball Woodedfloor Gymnasium yesterday.

The winners took a marginal 19-16 lead at half time.

Obaidullah of Afghanistan was almost on a single-handed mission of upsetting Bangladesh with his prolific shooting. He struck the match's highest 38 points.

Till Rashid was the hero for Bangladesh as he topscored for the home side with 32 points. He was well supported by Arfan with 14, Imran with 13 and Munna with 12 points.

On Friday night, Kazakhstan booked birth in the final round by thrashing Afghanistan 123-48 to finish at the top of the table with wins in all the three matches.

India with two wins in three outings captured the second spot. Kazakhstan and India qualified for the final round scheduled to be held in Tehran, Iran in September this year.

Meanwhile, Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Barrister Moudud Ahmed is expected to be the chief guest at the prize giving ceremony today.

# Pressure on Pakistan Ganguly wants to start afresh

BBC ONLINE/REUTERS, Colombo



Millions of fans in India and Pakistan will huddle around TVs and radios on Sunday as the two countries renew their cricket rivalry at the Asia Cup.

The game in Colombo is make or break for Pakistan after a dismal batting effort against hosts Sri Lanka in their opening second round game.

Victory for India might be enough to clinch their place in the final.

And they will start favourites after winning the one-day series in Pakistan earlier this year by a 3-2 margin.

The Pakistan squad has remained unchanged since then, but there has been a significant change with Bob Woolmer replacing Javed Miandad as coach.

Woolmer has left his players in no doubt about the standards he expects, criticising the batsmen for gifting their wickets away in Wednesday's seven-wicket thrash-

ing by Sri Lanka.

"He is there to change the culture and thinking in the team and to make it a more professional outfit. We are prepared to give him time to get results," said Pakistan Cricket Board chief Rameez Raja.

"The problem unfortunately has always been that the talent we have

has never corresponded with our performances."

Woolmer said he would be looking to stay calm.

"Like any old rivalry, be it Yorkshire-Lancashire or England-Australia, this is going to be a fantastic occasion," Woolmer told reporters.

"Coaches like myself have to keep calm in these situations so that we see objectively what goes on in the game."

Woolmer brushed aside Pakistan's loss to Sri Lanka as a blip.

"We have only had one bad game funnily enough," he said. "The reality is that the boys played very well in the two opening games and we bowled very well against Sri Lanka."

"If we bat better than we did against Sri Lanka then it should be a very good game."

Although India look the stronger all-round side, Pakistan know they had them at their mercy in the one-day series in March.

Leading 2-1, they totalled 293-9 in the fourth match in Lahore and then reduced India to 94-4 in reply.

SEE PAGE 14 COL 4

## TEAMS

**INDIA (from):** Sourav Ganguly (captain), Virender Sehwag, Rahul Dravid, Vangipurappu Laxman, Sachin Tendulkar, Yuvraj Singh, Mohammad Kaif, Parthiv Patel, Anil Kumble, Harbhajan Singh, Zaheer Khan, Ashish Nehra, Irfan Pathan, Lakshmpathy Balaji.

**PAKISTAN (from):** Inzamamul Haq (captain), Yousuf Youhana, Imran Farhat, Yasir Hameed, Imran Nazir, Younis Khan, Shoaib Malik, Abdul Razaq, Moin Khan, Mohammad Sami, Shoaib Akhtar, Shabbir Ahmed, Danish Kaneria, Navedul Hassan.

## Nadeef takes 5 for 81

SPORTS REPORTER

Left-arm spinner Nadief Chowdhury took five wickets but it was not enough for the touring Bangladesh Under-19 team to prevent ECB XI to pile up 337 runs on the opening day of the three-day match at the Loughborough University ground in Leicester on Friday.

Bangladesh youths were 42 for no loss at stumps with Nafees Ahmed and Nafees Iqbal were batting.

The home team lost two early wickets for 45 after deciding to bat first but they staged a remarkable recovery thanks to a 196-run third wicket partnership between Harmison and O'Shea.

Nadief picked up five wickets for 81 runs in 29 overs while fellow left-arm slow bowler and skipper Enamul Haq captured three for 89 in 29 overs. Besides, paceman Ashim Chowdhury took 2-44 in 10 overs.

## CJKS football

CU CORRESPONDENT

Brothers Union and Multijodda Khira Chakra shared points after a goalless draw in the CJKS-Elite Paint First Division Football League at the MA Aziz Stadium yesterday.

Multijodda's keeper Saifuddin Saifu, however, spoiled some good attempts of Brothers Union Club.

Mohammedan Blues will take on Customs Excise and Vat Club today.

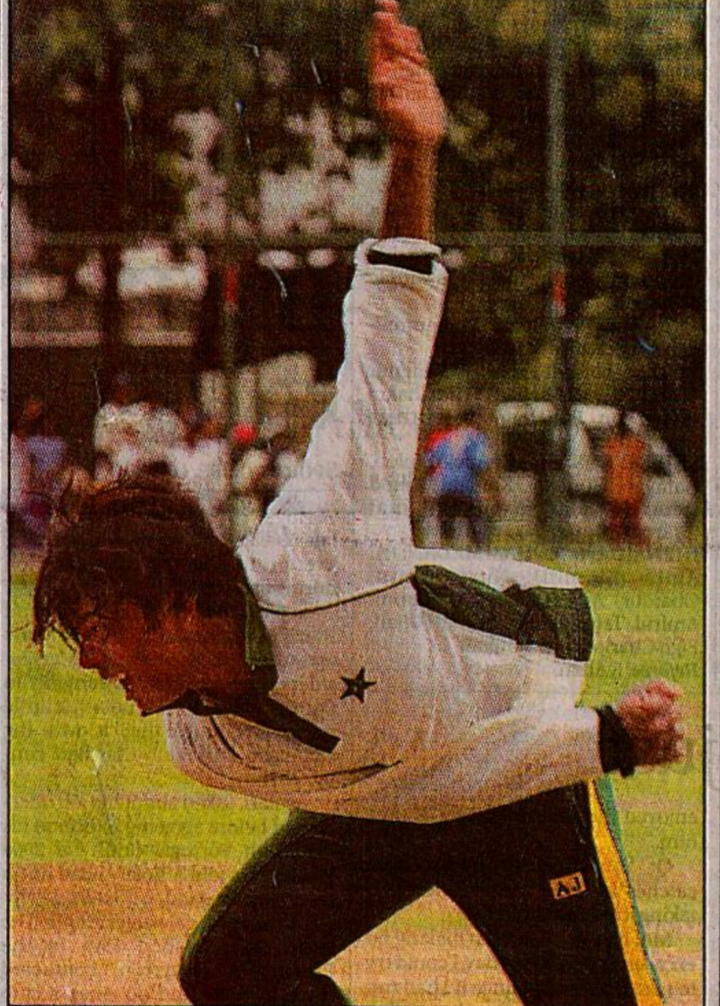


PHOTO: AFP  
Pakistan fast bowler Mohammad Sami bowls in the nets during a practice session in Colombo yesterday.

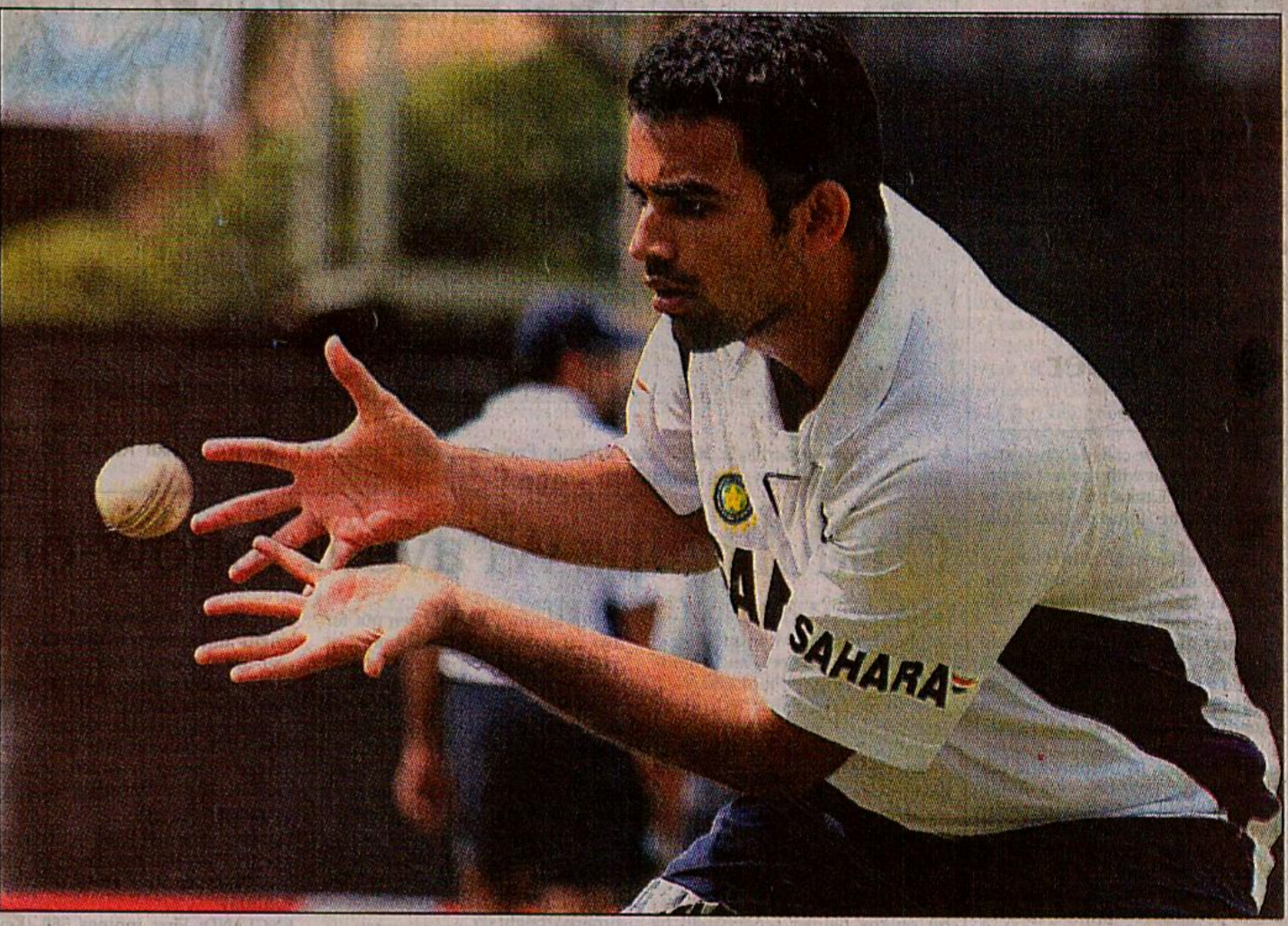


PHOTO: AFP  
FIT AGAIN: India paceman Zaheer Khan practises catching during a training session in Colombo yesterday. His side take on arch-rivals Pakistan in a crucial Asia Cup match today.

## Russel ride on Younes double

OUR CORRESPONDENT, M'singh

Two first-half goals by Quati Younes gave Sheikh Russel Krira Chakra a 2-1 victory against Jhenaidah Mohammedan Sporting in the fourth Nitol-Tata National Football League at the local stadium here on Saturday.

The lanky Moroccan striker, who struck the all-important goal in his side's 1-0 win against Unmochan Club of Bagerhat in the opening match, started from where he had left off, scoring in the 20th and 40th minute.

His double strike put the Premier League runners-up at the top with full six points after the last first-leg match here.

Playing in front of nearly six thousand spectators Younes put Russel ahead stabbing in an Asad cross from the right.

Midfielder Asad was also instrumental.

SEE PAGE 14 COL 5

## Nat'l hockey

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Army crashed Mymensingh by 9-0 to earn successive second win in the ANAS Group 25th National Hockey Championship at the Maulana Bhashani National Stadium yesterday.

Army brightened their chance to move into the final round.

Bangladesh Army dominated the first half by 4-0 in day's one-sided affairs.

Yasir Ali, Jalam Khan and Maksudul Haq struck twice each while Rahazuddin, Mostafa and Sanwar Hossain scored one goal each for the winners.

In the day's other match, Bangladesh Railway outplayed Patuakhali 4-1 after leading the first half by 3-0 goals at the same venue.

Monirul Islam hit the board twice while Sharafat Ali and Imtiaz Ahmed netted one goal each for the winners. Maksudul Rahman scored the consolation goal for the losers.



Asia Cup Cricket  
India vs Pakistan  
Live on ESPN & STAR Sports at 2:45 pm

# Dav's post-mortem

SPORTS REPORTER from Colombo

Bangladesh coach Dav Whatmore admitted that his boys did not play good cricket in the Asia Cup.

"The story of the tournament is that we were not as good as we should have been to be competitive. When you keep on losing, the confidence gets a hell of a beating and something in the team is not working. Lack of confidence builds. I have seen that in a couple of players," he told reporters at the pool-side of the team's official hotel on Saturday morning.

Whatmore was even critical of the lone victory the Tigers achieved against lowly Hong Kong in their opening match, which was followed by three straight defeats against Pakistan, India and hosts Sri Lanka.

"It was a game we were expected to win. But there were a few flutters when we batted first. The ball moved on that wicket but still, we could have won it more convincingly with the bat," the Sri Lankan-born Australian said.

He was very frank in pointing out the players who disappointed him most.

"Rajin Saleh tried hard but lacked confidence. Kapali looked good but he is a combination of a few silly shots and being unlucky," said a depressed Whatmore.

Usually, out of form batsmen seek salvation going down the order. But Rajin was consistently tried at the top and failed. Whatmore however wanted to see things from the other side.

"When someone like him is sitting with his pads on, the pressure builds in the waiting for going out there. That could be very stressful if you are out of form and not confident. When you open the batting, you know its time. Apart from that, we decided it on the fact that Rajin has a bit of technique. Against bowlers of that class, you need to have the technique to survive. In the end it was a very good ball that got him," explained Whatmore.

"It was a decision we made that did not work but we have to go with what we think is right."

"But Ashrafal set a terrific example for any team, not for Bangladesh only. The idea that you never give up has come across the team. If you continuously lose wickets, you will never be successful either chasing a

target or building a total. So you must stop wickets falling. Once you do that, slowly you build. That's what has happened. If it wasn't for that stupid piece of running between the wicket by Ashrafal, it could have been 200-plus."

"I am pleased the way the two (Ashrafal and Manjarul) shrugged off the pressure and it was not a total. But it was our poorest bowling performance. Khaled Mahmud has not used the new ball recently but we relied on his experience and the ability to skid the ball on the tracks. It did not work. We felt before the innings that there would be some assistance under lights for the seamers," he said.

But now Whatmore thinks that it is time to reassess the players at his disposal.

"We have to rethink the formation of the team now. There is lot to discuss, to review with selectors. We need to have a decent, frank, honest discussion about the way we are heading."

Whatmore was certainly pointing to the need for some fresh batsmen who can make runs.

"Maybe my expectations were too high here and I am disappointed

SEE PAGE 14 COL 1

# More than just a dasher

AL MUSABBIR SADI from Colombo

Mohammad Ashrafal reserves his best for Sri Lanka and Colombo seems to be his happy hunting place. The talented cricketer, who scored 114 on his Test debut against Sri Lanka at the SSC ground two years ago, also played his career best one-day knock against the same side, this time at the R Premadasa Stadium on Friday. His 66 against all odds was nothing like what one expects from the little right-hander. Rather it was a matured innings from someone who loves to play adventurous shots. The 19-year-old's knock might have had little bearing in the lop-sided affair, but that was certainly a strong statement that Ashrafal's talent and performance were finally combining on the field. The exciting batsman was quite animated while talking about his fighting innings at the lobby of Hotel Taj Samudra on Saturday. Excerpts of his interview:

Question (Q): What would you

say about yesterday's innings?

Mohammad Ashrafal (MA): I have played such an innings under pressure for the first time. After being reduced to 31-4, I never thought we would be able to reach 190. I had no total on my mind. But honestly, I did not take the pressure on myself. If I had a specialist batsman as company, we could have scored more runs because the wicket was really good.

Q: Do you mean that the other batsmen could not take the advantage of it?

MA: I think in all four matches we played on good wickets but unfortunately we could not score big totals.

Q: How would rate Manzarul's contribution in the match?

MA: It was very important. After four wickets fell quickly, my brain was not working. I was not sure what to do after Alok was run out. It was bothering me most but Manzarul helped me recover. I was determined to play the full 50 overs. Our first 100 came in the 35th over, but I was confident of making it up in the last ten overs.

Q: You have top-scored in the last two matches, but you have also earned the tag of a naughty runner. Is it bothering you?

MA: In the first match, I did not back up properly. In the next, I was a bit slow while chasing a second run. But I'm really sad about Alok's run out. I need to work on my running between the wickets.

Q: There is a definite change in your batting. You are not more selective in your shots. What's the reason for it?

MA: I used to chase short balls, pull early and got carried away and

SEE PAGE 14 COL 4



MOHAMMAD ASHRAFAL

## Cricket Quiz 10

Which of the following player of Bangladesh National Cricket Team has played the highest number of ODI's?

A Athar Ali Khan   
  B Habibur Bashar   
  C Khaled Masud (Pilot)   
  D Khaled Mahmud

Answer by sending SMS\* to the number 2003  
e.g. If your answer is (A) then write Quiz10 A and send it to 2003

For each quiz, five correct answer providers (selected by lottery) will receive attractive prizes!!

**GrameenPhone**  
Official Sponsor of Bangladesh National Cricket Team