



PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

BCB XI opener Hannan Sarker takes off for a run after playing the ball fine during his knock of 44 on the second day of the three-day match against New Zealand at the BKSP yesterday.

Corporate cricket Twenty20 hardly creates sparks

SPORTS REPORTER

Twenty20 cricket made an inauspicious start on the opening day of the GrameenPhone Corporate Cricket League when the second edition of the meet for corporate houses began at three venues in the city.

The buzz surrounding the new-look competition was missing with the majority of the six opening matches hardly inspiring players to entertain the crowds.

The pick of the games, however, featuring Bangladesh Biman and BEXIMCO at the Dhanmondi Stadium, saw the national flag-carrier post an easy six-wicket win. Opener Rashedul Haq and wicketkeeper Sajjad Kadir produced some fireworks and they contributed 71 runs for the second wicket to propel Biman to 148-4 in reply to BEXIMCO's 145-7.

Rashedul smote five fours and two sixes in a 34-ball 41 while his partner, who top-scored with 66 off 40 deliveries, smashed seven fours and a six.

At the Bangabandhu National Stadium, Anisur Rahman hit 55 off 44 balls as defending champions ARAF Apparels defeated Gazi Tank by 37 runs.

ARAF after 20 overs finished on 126 for nine. Chasing the total proved beyond their opponents as they failed to cross the three-figure mark in their mandatory overs.

SCORES IN BRIEF
BEXIMCO: 145 for 7 in 20 overs (Sajjad Ahmed 43, Sharif 2-29, Mosharaf 2-14)

SEE PAGE 14 COL 4

Shahriar wants to retire

SPORTS REPORTER

Shahriar Hossain has decided to quit from international cricket following his inclusion in the national pool for the upcoming premier division cricket league.

The right-handed opener submitted a letter of resignation to the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) on Thursday as he thought it was impossible to pursue an international career for personal reasons.

But the player was apparently not enthusiastic at being named in the 19-member pool, which would prevent him from playing in lucrative domestic club cricket.

"Actually I don't want to end my international career right at the moment but I was prompted to take my decision after hearing that I had been included in the pool. I will only reconsider if the Board withdraws me from the pool," said Shahriar without elaborating yesterday.

The 28-year-old right-hander batsman Shamsur Rahman in their 57-run stand for the fifth wicket.

However, Ashrafal denied himself an opportunity to go on to a bigger score when he literally threw away his wicket.

He got adventurous after tea and was stepping out to almost every other delivery bowled by Wiseman and Vettori. After hitting a couple of boundaries using that ploy, he was dropped by Franklin at extra-coverage to Vettori. But instead of showing maturity, Ashrafal again came down the wicket to the experienced Vettori and was stumped. Ashrafal played 128 balls and hit three fours.

Number six Shamsur Rahman on the other hand showed composure beyond his years in his 37 (102 balls).

Butler, Vettori and Wiseman each captured two wickets for the visitors who had added 59 in the first hour of the morning after resuming on 285-6. The declaration came when McCullum reached 52 with Vettori unbeaten on 26.

"It was a nice wicket to bowl on with a little bounce in it. We expected it here and the conditions dictate that spinners will be most effective on these wickets in the

SEE PAGE 14 COL 5

Sehwag empowers India

AFP, Madras



AUSTRALIA II INDIA 2004-05

in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Virender Sehwag hit 155 to upstage Shane Warne's world bowling record as India squeezed out a first innings lead in the second Test against Australia here on Friday.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

India, cruising at 178-2 in the post-lunch session, lost four middle-order wickets for 55 runs as the world champions fought back in stifling hot conditions at the Chepauk here.

Mohammad Kaif and wicket-keeper Parthiv Patel ensured India the lead with an unbroken stand of 58 for the seventh wicket.

Kaif, playing his first Test since 2001 despite being a regular member of the one-day side, defied the second new ball to remain unbeaten on 34.

Patel, dropped by Warne in the slips, was on a gritty 27.

India go into the third day with a lead of 56 runs and four wickets in hand on a dual-paced track expected to crumble later in the match.

Warne, who had drawn level with Sri Lankan Muttiah Muralitharan's world record of 532 wickets on Thursday evening by removing makeshift opener Yuvraj Singh, went ahead 30 minutes before lunch.

The leg-spinner struck in his seventh over of the morning, forcing nightwatchman Irfan Pathan to edge a catch to Matthew Hayden in the slips.

Warne ended the day with the k e y

SEE PAGE 14 COL 2



PHOTO: AFP

BANG, BANG! Indian opener Virender Sehwag sweeps during his century on the second day of the second Test against Australia yesterday.

What to WATCH

- DD Sports**
 India vs Australia
 Second Test, Day Three
 Live at 10:00 am
- TEN Sports**
 Triangular Cricket Series
 Pakistan vs Sri Lanka (Final)
 Live at 2:45 pm
- ESPN**
 English Premier Football League
 Man United vs Birmingham City
 Live at 5:40 pm
- Liverpool vs Fulham**
 Live at 7:55 pm
- Man City vs Chelsea**
 Live at 10:10 pm
- STAR Sports**
 English Premier Football League
 Arsenal vs Aston Villa
 Live at 7:55 pm
- Primera Liga**
 Real Madrid vs Real Betis
 Live at 12:00 am (Sunday)
- Barcelona vs Espanyol**
 Live at 2:00 am (Sunday)

TALK TURKEY



Stephen Fleming
 (New Zealand cricket captain)
 "I know that there are some areas in the world that are growing a little bit impatient with the way Bangladesh are playing. But for the sake of the global game, it is important that they are patient and allow Bangladesh time to develop."

Pacer Nazmul hospitalised

SPORTS REPORTER

Young Bangladesh pacer Nazmul Hossain was admitted to a hospital in Dhaka yesterday for suspected dengue fever.

The 19-year old bowler, who

SEE PAGE 14 COL 4

Tourists' spin duo impress

Tigers' squad for first Test due today



SPORTS REPORTER

Hannan Sarker staked claim for a Test recall but Alok Kapali wasted the opportunity to impress the selectors in the three-day match against New Zealand at the BKSP yesterday.

Opening batsman Hannan and number five Mohammad Ashrafal both hit 44 as the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) XI crawled to 200 for seven at close in their first innings against some tight bowling from the Black Caps' spinners. New Zealand had earlier declared on 344-6 after resuming day two on 285 for six.

Hannan must be on their mind to partner first choice opener Javed Omar when the national selectors name the squad for the first Test today. Fellow contender Nafees Iqbal did his prospects no favour with a 27-ball duck.

Nafees, who is yet to make his Test debut, survived 40 minutes against New Zealand's new ball pair of Ian Butler and James Franklin. But he edged first change Jacob Oram in his first over to Matthew

Sinclair at third slip. Hannan and Aftab Ahmed took the score to 61 at lunch without further damage but the home side lost two quick wickets early into the second session.

Hannan was fluent during his 76-ball stay and particularly handled New Zealand's spin attack with ease. He hit five boundaries in his innings but just when he looked set for a half-century, the right-hander who was dropped after the West Indies trip in June, was caught behind by Brendon McCullum in off-spinner Paul Wiseman's second over after lunch.

Aftab contributed 14 during a 52-run second wicket stand with Hannan but failed to move his bat away in time from a bouncer bowled by the fiery Butler and wicketkeeper McCullum gloved the edge.

Captain Kapali began promisingly as he always does and hooked left-arm pacer Franklin for a four early in his knock. But having hung around for an hour Kapali gave a return catch to left-arm spinner Daniel Vettori to leave his side on 131-4.

Ashrafal who took his time to settle down, received excellent support from Bangladesh Under 19

batman Shamsur Rahman in their 57-run stand for the fifth wicket. However, Ashrafal denied himself an opportunity to go on to a bigger score when he literally threw away his wicket.

He got adventurous after tea and was stepping out to almost every other delivery bowled by Wiseman and Vettori. After hitting a couple of boundaries using that ploy, he was dropped by Franklin at extra-coverage to Vettori. But instead of showing maturity, Ashrafal again came down the wicket to the experienced Vettori and was stumped. Ashrafal played 128 balls and hit three fours.

Number six Shamsur Rahman on the other hand showed composure beyond his years in his 37 (102 balls).

Butler, Vettori and Wiseman each captured two wickets for the visitors who had added 59 in the first hour of the morning after resuming on 285-6. The declaration came when McCullum reached 52 with Vettori unbeaten on 26.

"It was a nice wicket to bowl on with a little bounce in it. We expected it here and the conditions dictate that spinners will be most effective on these wickets in the

SEE PAGE 14 COL 5

ICC double standards



COMMODORE (RET) MUJIBUR RAHMAN

Indian opening batsman Virender Sehwag was given leg before wicket by umpire Billy Bowden in the Test match that just ended in Bangalore when television replays clearly showed that the ball had hit the bat before hitting the pad. While walking back to the pavilion Sehwag had some discussion about his 'out' with Bowden. In the first innings the same umpire gave Irfan Pathan caught behind the wicket when the TV replay showed the ball had hit the pad and not the bat. Sehwag was duly reported by umpire Bowden to the match referee Rangan Madugalle for misconduct and 'dissent' and he was punished for bringing the game to disrepute.

Before the introduction of 'code of conduct' for the similar offences white cricketers were let off by the match referee by saying "it was sign

of disappointment" but in case of non-white cricketers the match referee would penalise the offender by saying "it was sign of dissent that brought the game to disrepute" This anomaly continued till Sunil Gavaskar in one of his articles mentioned this and the introduction of a Code of Conduct brought an end to these distasteful incidents.

The Sehwag incident is another reminder of discrimination. One wonders if any action is taken by the ICC against umpires who make blunders while standing in Tests and one-day internationals

A few weeks back the ICC chief executive Malcolm Speed admonished the chairman of Pakistan Cricket Board's selection committee Wasim Bari for having criticised umpire David Shepherd for giving Inzamamul Haq out, caught behind the wicket against Australia in Amsterdam.

Those who saw the match on TV had also doubts about that decision. Recently, Imran Khan expressed his surprise at the reaction of Malcolm Speed.

Speed among other observations said he will not tolerate criticism from cricket officials and will amend laws accordingly to punish them in future. By constructing a fortress around the ICC, Speed is going to do more harm to cricket than enhancing its image. It is only through transparency and constructive criticism that the ICC can keep cricket above question and save the game from disrepute.

David Shepherd has given doubtful decisions in the past and one example was during the final of the World Cup held in London a few years back between Australia and Pakistan. He gave Inzamam caught behind when the TV replay showed the ball would have missed the bat by almost an inch.

During Australia's last tour of the West Indies in one of the Test matches the ugly incident that took place between Glenn McGrath and Ramnaresh Sarwan was seen all over the world through TV broadcast

SEE PAGE 14 COL 5

Mahmud confused

SPORTS REPORTER

Confusion was the order of the day in the Second GrameenPhone Corporate Cricket League when former national captain Khaled Mahmud came to represent the sponsors' team in their match against Ipsahani.

No sooner had the former Bangladesh captain arrived at the Bangabandhu National Stadium, he was faced with an embarrassing situation that he would be not allowed to play.

Chairman of the Corporate League committee Khondokar Jamiluddin told the reporters that he could not allow Mahmud to play without written permission from the national team management.

"Without any written clearance we can't allow any national camp player to participate in the league at the moment," said Jamil.

Mahmud however said that he had been given the okay from coach Dav Whatmore to play in the day's match.

When asked to comment chief selector Faruque Ahmed said: "We have 21 players in the camp and everybody is eligible to play in the first Test against New Zealand that's why we can't release anybody before announcing the team."

Warne spins past record

AFP/REUTERS, Madras



AUSTRALIA II INDIA 2004-05

in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Sehwag's seventh century in 25 Tests helped the hosts close the second day's play on 291-6 in reply to Australia's modest first innings score of 235.

Australian leg-spinner Shane Warne claimed the world record for Test wickets on Friday, snaring his 533rd career victim during the second Test against India to outstrip Sri Lankan rival Muttiah Muralitharan.

Warne, 35, had Indian night-watchman Irfan Pathan caught by Matthew Hayden in the slips.

"At the moment it's a bit of a blur," said Warne, after surpassing Muralitharan's mark of 532 wickets.

"It's been a long time. I never thought I'd be in this situation when I first started."

"Obviously it felt pretty special. It was a special moment, especially here in India.

"The crowd here understood what was going on and they were very appreciative.

"To have them clapping and chanting my name was pretty special."

"It has gone so fast. I'm up to 114

Tests and I have missed probably 30 through injuries and things but I feel very proud to get the record and I never thought I would," he said.

"I suppose I'll take five minutes with my wife tonight and just reflect and say that was pretty good."

"If I only hold the record for a week, at least I've got the opportunity to say I was the world record-holder," said Warne, whose achievement erased the memory of his nightmare 181-2 here in 2001.

"I've had bad memories here. We lost the series from 1-1 (in 2001) and I played terribly," he said.

In Colombo, Sri Lanka's World Cup-winning skipper Arjuna Ranatunga congratulated his old foe but predicted his glory will be short-lived.

Ranatunga, 40, who in 1996 led Sri Lanka to World Cup victory, said Muralitharan would win back the record after he recovers from injury.

Muralitharan, 32, known as Murali, is at home recovering from shoulder surgery in Australia.

"It is good for Murali to have stiff competition from Shane Warne," said Ranatunga.

"But he will be able to get back

SEE PAGE 14 COL 2



PHOTO: AFP