



## Did U Know?

The only cricketer who bats left-handed, bowls right-arm, deals cards with his left hands, hammers a nail with the right and brushes his teeth with either is David Gower of England.



## Stephen Fleming

(New Zealand cricket captain)

"I was a little bit disappointed because I thought Bangladesh would be more competitive in their own backyard. I thought that they could use the conditions better than us. We also expected a little bit more from the Bangladesh batters since they knew the condition. I also did not see them playing with any strategy against our spin attack."

# Tigers look to ODIs



CU CORRESPONDENT

Reeling from a Test series white-wash, Bangladesh were switching their attention to the first of the three-match one-day series against New Zealand.

With skipper Habibul Bashar returned to the side after missing both Tests, which ended in innings defeats, the Tigers are now looking forward to performing in the first-day that starts on Tuesday at the MA Aziz Stadium.

Bashar, who missed the Test series due to a thumb injury, believed his side would raise their performance-level in the 50-over contests. He was talking to journalists after an extensive two-hour practice session at the country's second Test venue in the afternoon.

"We all know that we under-performed against the visiting New Zealanders in Tests. So we don't want to repeat the same mistakes in the ODIs. That is why we have not wasted any time to prepare for the first match. In the next two days we will make an assessment on which batsmen and the bowlers to pick," he said.

Bashar is one of the three players the selectors decided to replace from the team that lost the second Test by an innings and 101 runs.

"I'm fully fit now and ready to take

on the Kiwis. I've got over my fear being hit on the glove while batting in the nets," said the 32-year-old champion batsman of the country.

The Bangladesh captain however said that apart from Mohammad Rafique none of the bowlers proved effective in home conditions.

"It is true our bowlers cannot perform on home wickets but have enjoyed greater success whenever we have toured abroad. But at the same time it is not their fault because wickets here are not ideal for them," he explained.

Apart from Bashar, two other called up players -- all-rounder Khaled Mahmud and young pacer Nazmul Hossain -- trained with pacer Tapash Baisya and left-arm spinner Manzarul Islam.

Others however enjoyed a day out to Kaptai Lake, a picturesque place 56km from the port city.

Coach Dav Whatmore again spoke of the need of his young players to show more patience at the crease. "They need to develop more patience as well as mental strength," he said adding that they should approach their batting in a relaxed way.

On the other hand New Zealand captain Stephen Fleming left for home. In his absence the Kiwis will be led in the three ODIs by left-arm spinner Daniel Vettori, who was the wrecker-in-chief with 12 in the

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PHOTO: ZOBAER HOSSAIN SIKDER  
WE TWO CAN DO IT: Returning Bangladesh captain Habibul Bashar (L) and his predecessor Khaled Mahmud talk as they stretch during a practice session of the national cricket team at the MA Aziz Stadium in Chittagong yesterday.

# GP, Biman cruise along

SPORTS REPORTER

Sponsors GrameenPhone and Bangladesh Biman registered their second consecutive victory in the Cup competition of the Corporate Cricket League defeating their respective rivals at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium yesterday.

Defending champions Araf Apparels was the other team in the six-team Cup phase that won their game against AKTEL away at the BKSP ground in Savar.

Araf, who lost their first match against GrameenPhone, thrived on a fine half-century by discarded national opener Ehsanul Haq to post a 27-run victory in the ball-bashing Twenty20 competition.

Ehsanul scored a fluent 57 and Nayem Islam hammered 40 in Araf's fighting score of 141-5 in 20 overs. Kamrul Hasan and Nuruzzaman then shared six wickets between them to shot AKTEL out for 114.

At the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium, left-arm spinner Enamul Haq returned from Test duty to spin GrameenPhone to a massive 65-run win against newcomers Robintex.

Enamul, who took two New Zealand wickets in the second Test in Chittagong, claimed four wickets conceding only nine runs as Robintex tumbled to 77-7 in their

share of 20 overs.

Earlier, batting first after winning the toss, the leading cellular operators in the country set a challenging total of 142-8 with Shamimul Haq notching highest 46 and opener Shahriar Hossain contributing 29. But Alok Kapali, dropped from the one-day series after yet another disappointing show in the two-match Test series, continued to disappoint even in less competitive event. Kapali's contribution in GrameenPhone's total was 18.

Bangladesh Biman prevailed over CityCell by nine runs in a closely fought second match at the same venue. The national flag carrier made 131 for eight in 20 overs thanks to a superb 61 by veteran opener Jahangir Alam. Humayun Kabir scored an impressive 31.

CityCell started their chase impressively with Hasanuzzaman hitting the ball all around the park for 33 and Moniruzzaman making an equally impressive 21. But CityCell eventually ended up at 122 all out in 19.4 overs.

Meanwhile, in the Plate competition, BEXIMCO continued their winning streak with an eight-wicket defeat on newcomers Epyllion at BKSP.

Acme Laboratories scored a comfortable 68-run victory against Partex Group while Ispahani defeated Gazi Tank by 12 runs in the other two Plate fixtures at the

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# India shake up squad

AFP, Nagpur



AUSTRALIA INDIA 2004-05

Indian selectors Saturday made a host of changes for the fourth and final Test against Australia after an ignominious defeat in the third Test here.

Opener Akash Chopra and wicket-keeper Parthiv Patel were the prime casualties a day after India went down by a massive 342 runs to concede a 2-0 lead for their first home series loss to the Aussies in 35 years.

Left-hander Yuvraj Singh and seamer Ajit Agarkar were the others to be dropped for the match, which commences in Mumbai on November 3.

"The selectors had long deliberations considering both form and fitness of players and felt others needed to be given chances," said Karunakaran Nair, the secretary of the Board of Control for Cricket in India.

Pace bowler Irfan Pathan, who missed the Nagpur Test because of a side strain, was ruled out while captain Sourav Ganguly's inclusion was subject to his passing a fitness

test on November 1. Rahul Dravid will again captain the side if Ganguly is left out.

The new names in the squad were left-handed openers Gautam Gambhir and Dheeraj Jadhav, wicketkeeper Dinesh Karthik and pacerman Shub Paul.

Delhi batsman Gambhir and Tamil Nadu govtman Karthik have played one-day internationals for India but made it to the Test squad for the first time. Karthik kept wicket in September's ICC Champions Trophy in England.

There was no surprise in the exclusion of Chopra, who scored just 15 runs in four innings during the ongoing series, and an off-colour Patel.

"Parthiv's performance was under scrutiny and the selectors persisted with him seeing his record and useful efforts with the bat. But

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# Soccer's Rahim passes away

SPORTS REPORTER

Former national footballer and coach Abdur Rahim died yesterday at his residence at Rokonpur in the old part of the capital. He was 72.

National sports awardee Rahim had been suffering from kidney ailment for long.



ABDUR RAHIM

A former member of Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF), Rahim is survived by his wife and two sons.

His *namaz-e-janaza* was held at the Sonali Otit Club premises at 6:30pm. He was later buried at the Dakshin Musundi graveyard.

Rahim started his career with First Division side Dhaka Wanderers in 1948. In a career spanning 27 years, he also played for BJMC, Azad Sporting and BUET.

He started his coaching stint with the national team for the Merdeka Cup in 1975.

Different organisations including BFF expressed their deep shock at the death of Rahim, who devoted all his life to the sport, and prayed for the salvation of the departed soul and extended sympathy to the bereaved family members.

# Club Cup hockey Abahani last in final four

SPORTS REPORTER

Abahani confirmed their semifinal berth in the Club Cup hockey tournament with a 5-0 thrashing of Ajax Sporting Club at the Maulana Bhasani National Stadium yesterday.

The day's result ensured the popular sky blues their third consecutive win which put them along with earlier qualifiers Mohammedan, Usha Krira Chakra and Mariner Youngs Club in the last four.

But the semifinal field will be decided only after the last Group A match between Mohammedan and Usha tomorrow and Group B match between Abahani and Mariner the day after.

Abahani, the last year's runners-up, dominated the first half 2-0 when their Indian recruit Ronald Kiran hit the board from a penalty corner in the 12th minute and his compatriot Prakash Chalke added another in the 33rd minute through a field goal.

After the breather, Prakash struck his second field goal in the 43rd minute.

After three minutes, Bangladesh

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# Sanath's counter-attack after big Pakistan lead



AFP, Karachi

Pakistan plundered Sri Lanka's bowling line-up on Saturday to secure a commanding 270-run lead after the first innings of their second Test, before Sanath Jayasuriya led a blistering counter-attack.

Coming off a double century in the first Test, veteran Sri Lankan opener Jayasuriya hit an unbeaten 96 runs off 104 balls to reduce the deficit to 136 runs by stumps on the third day.

His ferocious innings also took him past Aravinda de Silva as the most prolific run scorer in Sri Lanka Test history.

Jayasuriya's fight back came after the home team rode on a

resolute 117 by captain Inzamamul Haq, the 20th century of his Test career, to post a first innings total of 478, against Sri Lanka's 208.

Inzamam spent 328 minutes at the crease and spent long periods making slow progress, edging through the 90s mostly on singles, with his century coming off 215 balls.

Inzamam fell fourth ball after the lunch interval when he was caught at first slip off Sri Lankan pacerman Chaminda Vaas, who finished with 3-106.

The burly 34-year-old said he was happy with his restrained performance.

"I knew I had to bat for a long time to build a lead from where Pakistan can force a win and I am happy I did," said Inzamam, who hit 10 boundaries and a six.

Inzamam's innings built on the efforts of recalled top-order bats-

man Younis Khan, who had celebrated his return to the Test arena by making 124 on Friday.

Vice-captain Yusuf Youhana and Shoaib Malik offered Inzamam solid support on Saturday.

Youhana made an exciting 46, hitting a six off Vaas and another off left-arm off-spinner Rangana Herath.

His innings came to a close when he chased a Dilhara Fernando outswinger that deviated off the pitch and gave a fine edge to wicketkeeper Kumar Sangakkara.

Youhana and Inzamam added 74 runs for the fifth wicket.

Shoaib Malik played an enterprising knock of 44 and added an invaluable 50 for the seventh wicket with Abdul Razaq before Fernando trapped him leg before wicket and then bowled Nave Hasan for 11 in 74 runs for the fifth wicket.

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The end of Pakistan's innings signalled Jayasuriya's onslaught, and he was ruthless from the outset, hitting new ball bowlers Navedul and Rizaf Afridi out of the attack with seven boundaries in the first six overs.

Jayasuriya, who hit an epic 253 in the first Test to complete 1,000 Test runs in the current calendar year, raced to his half century off just 42 balls, punctuated with eight boundaries and a six.

By close Jayasuriya had hit 14 fours and a six in his 114-minute stay at the crease.

With Jayasuriya going berserk at one end, skipper Marvan Atapattu played the anchor role until leg-spinner Danish Kaneria had him caught at bat pad for 25.

Jayasuriya said he was delighted to have moved passed de Silva's record of 6361 runs to become the highest scoring player in Sri Lanka history.

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PHOTO: STAR  
An Abahani attack at the Ajax post during their Club Cup hockey tournament clash at the Maulana Bhasani National Stadium yesterday.

# Papers call 'em ruthless

REUTERS/CRICINFO, Melbourne



AUSTRALIA INDIA 2004-05

Australia's first series victory in India for 35 years was a ruthless performance, the country's newspapers said on Saturday.

With captain Ricky Ponting missing the first three Tests of the four-match series because of injury, wicketkeeper Adam Gilchrist led the tourists to an unbeatable 2-0 lead after Friday's 342-run victory at Nagpur in the third Test.

"It's a magnificent effort for them to be up for so long and to be winning series after series," former captain Bill Lawry, who captained

Australia to a 3-1 series victory in India in 1969, said in Melbourne's Herald Sun.

Former Australia captain Steve Waugh, who retired in January having led his side to the top ranking in the game but failed to win in India, said the Australians had won the series by putting India's batsmen under "stifling pressure".

"The heavyweight battle turned into a lopsided contest as India's much revered batting order dissolved under Australia's stifling pressure," he wrote in a column for the Herald Sun.

"Quite simply, it didn't have the stomach for the battle." He has termed the victory as a "triumph of team unity and attention to detail".

Waugh led the team which was thwarted in his bid to win the series in 2001 when India scripted a stun-

ning comeback. But he felt that this Indian side hadn't played with the same gumption.

"And (they) didn't bear any resemblance to the rampaging unit that smashed us around in Australia last season."

Waugh added that he had mixed feelings as he watched Australia win at Nagpur and seal the series, with a part of him wishing he was out in the middle and basking in the heady triumph.

"But I also feel satisfaction knowing that I played a part in the development of such a great side."

"Last time around we had won 16 Tests in a row and were one wicket away from a series win before we ran into one of the all-time great partnerships. Perhaps we took it for granted. This time around no stone has been left unturned and that has

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# Star WHIZZ KID COMPETITION 21

Tick the correct answers, post The Daily Star

Competition closes at 8 pm Nov 5, 2004 and draw shortly afterwards

1. West Indies defeated England in the ICC Champions Trophy final by:	2 wkts	50 runs	33 runs
2. Who won the China Open tennis title?	Serena Sharapova	Hingis	
3. How many times was Pavel Nedved capped before announcing his retirement?	83	84	81
4. Who became man-of-the-tournament in the ICC Champions Trophy?	Sarwan	Flintoff	Lara

Name .....

Class .....

School Address .....

Phone: (If any) .....

# JFA Cup Feni reach final

UNB, Dhaka

Feni DSA advanced to the final of the JFA Cup Under-16 football tournament with a 3-1 win over Rajshahi DSA in the second semifinal at the Birshrestha Shaheed Mostafa Stadium yesterday.

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PHOTO: AFP  
CAPTAIN'S INNINGS: Pakistan captain Inzamamul Haq salutes the crowd upon reaching his century on the third day of the second and final Test against Sri Lanka at the National Stadium in Karachi yesterday.