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# Star SPORT

DHAKA MONDAY DECEMBER 13, 2004, E-MAIL: dssports@gononet.com

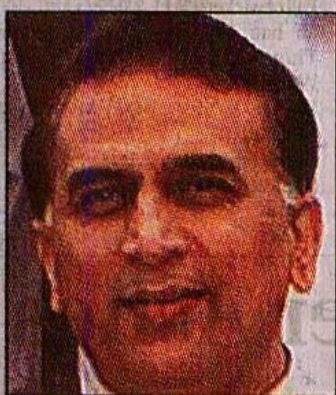
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## Did U Know?

Sachin Tendulkar established another record with his century knock against Bangladesh. He became the first batsman in Test annals to post 19 centuries overseas, overtaking Sunil Gavaskar (18).



## Sunil Gavaskar

(Indian cricket legend)

"Right from the time when I first saw Sachin play a flick shot wide of mid-on in the nets for the Mumbai (Bombay) Ranji Trophy probables, I knew that here he was a special talent. His enthusiasm for the game remains undiminished and his bearing on and off the field has always been exemplary."  
On Sachin Tendulkar.

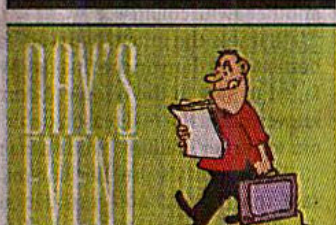


## What to Watch

**BTV & ESPN**  
First Test  
Bangladesh v India  
Day 4, live at 9.30 am

**ESPN**  
Sportscentre  
Live at 8.30 pm

**STAR Sports**  
Sportsline  
Live at 8 pm  
Primera Liga  
Real Madrid v Real Sociedad  
Repeat at 8.30 pm  
English Premier League  
Fulham v Man United  
Live at 2 am (Tuesday)



**Green Delta Premier Hockey**  
Usha v Sonali Bank (3 pm)  
Maan Bangladesh GM Chess

## Premier hockey MSC too strong for Bima

SPORTS REPORTER

Maksud Alam Habul scored twice in the second half as Mohammedan Sporting Club handed Sadharan Bima 5-1 thrashing in the Green Delta Premier Hockey League at the Maulana Bhashani National Stadium yesterday.

The Black and Whites, who led 2-0 at the break with goals from Rajan and Shishu, pushed their collection to 13 points with their fourth win. Chayan and Shamsuddin also got on the scoresheet for Mohammedan.

They are now jointly leading the table with Abahani but Usha Krira Chakra, who have won all their four

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## Of records & a comedy

### Cricket

AL MUSABBIR SADI

Records tumbled on the third day of the first Test at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday. But in the process Bangladesh were on the receiving end even after hearing the wise words of Wasim Akram. The legendary Pakistani pacer had a chat with the Bangladesh think-tank in the morning, giving some tips on ways for the home side to wrap up the Indian innings.

However, the majority of the Tigers showed no resolve with either ball or bat.

"Akram gave some suggestions to coach Dav Whatmore about what should be the strategy of our bowlers against the Indian tall and Sachin Tendulkar. But we did not heed his advice," said a close team source.

Although Mashrafe-Bin-Mortuza struck early to remove overnight batsman Anil Kumble after Mushfiqur Rahman had Harbhajan Singh caught at first slip cheaply in the morning, Tendulkar went on to bank on a gaffe by the local boys to score a career-best 248 not out. Zaheer Khan later added more salt to the wounds by hitting 75, the highest score ever by a number 11 batsman as India amassed a mammoth 526.

It was the day's fifth over when Tendulkar, on 171 after resuming on

159, played Tapash Baisya to square-leg and crossed for a single. Seeing Mohammad Ashraful running slowly from deep mid-wicket, he started for a second run but understood that he had misjudged the situation.

Tendulkar was halfway through the crease when Ashraful's throw reached wicketkeeper Khaled Mashud but the experienced pair of hands ensured a comedy of errors. He failed to gather the ball properly and when he broke all the stumps at his third attempt, Tendulkar, wearing a wry smile on his face, was home.

But much to the surprise of the few thousand at the Big Bowl, Kumble was stuck at the same end with Tendulkar and started running back. Mashud managed a wild throw to Mohammad Rafique who removed the balls but Kumble, too, survived the fiasco after TV replays cleared him.

After that, spectators from the crowd began to cheer for the Indians in frustration. One even said, "Go on Sachin, our players will get you to that double century."

Tendulkar still could have been stopped from surpassing his previous best, 241 against Australia in Sydney, when India lost their ninth wicket on 393 with the master batsman nine short of his fourth double hundred.

But the toothless Bangladesh attack failed to trouble even Zaheer,

SEE PAGE 14 COL 5

## 'This wicket is the best I've played on in Asia'

### Cricket

BISHWAJIT ROY

Irfan Pathan can not be faulted for falling in love with the Bangabandhu National Stadium wicket.

This is where he achieved his first five-for in Tests on Friday and less than 48 hours later, the 20-year-old was celebrating a remarkable 10-wicket haul as his fantastic spell on the afternoon of Day Three had Bangladesh hanging by a thread.

Pathan did not reserve his praise for the BNS pitch which has been a revelation. Gone is the traditional slow and low nature which has been replaced by a lively even-bounced track that has plenty of encouragement for genuine seam bowlers even after three days and Pathan acknowledged the assistance.

"This is a perfect track for a seam bowler like me. I really enjoyed bowling here. The ball swings more here than in India. Pitches in Pakistan also offers assistance but I think this wicket is the best I've played on in Asia," said the exciting left-arm quick after the third day's play.

Pathan did not blame the Bangladeshi batsmen for the way they capitulated in both innings as he thought they had their work cut out. He was also not surprised at the

number of LBW decisions (seven) that went in his favour.

"It was easy for me because I was able to bowl the inswingers, especially with the new ball. It is difficult for any batsman to play against such a swinging ball. I don't think they played badly, the bowling was just very good."

Pathan said he was surprised at getting ten wickets in the match.

"It's a great feeling for me. I took my first five-wicket haul after 14 months in international cricket but I did not expect to get another five so soon. Actually you need one five-wicket return to get you started," said Pathan.

Pathan rated his performance as a top one and refused to entertain ideas that the wickets came cheap because of the quality of the opposition.

"I think I bowled a lot better in the second innings than in the first. In the afternoon you generally don't get that much swing."

Pathan was asked whether it was a conscious decision to bowl from umpire Jeremy Lloyds' end in both innings as he has given no less than nine leg before verdicts in the match already.

"I was bowling with the wind in the first innings. In the second there was no wind so I thought I would try

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## Zahoor slices Uttara

SPORTS REPORTER



Zahoor Elahi smashed his second century in five matches as Old DOHS stormed to a 110-run win against Uttara Sporting Club in the Green Delta Premier Cricket League yesterday.

Brothers returned to winning ways after two losses when they snatched a one-wicket victory against Orient Sporting Club while holders Victoria handed a thumping six-wicket defeat on Indira Road Krira Chakra.

**DOHS-UTTARA**  
Pakistani right-hander Zahoor, who scored a century in the first league match against City Club, made 106 off 121 balls and skipper Akram

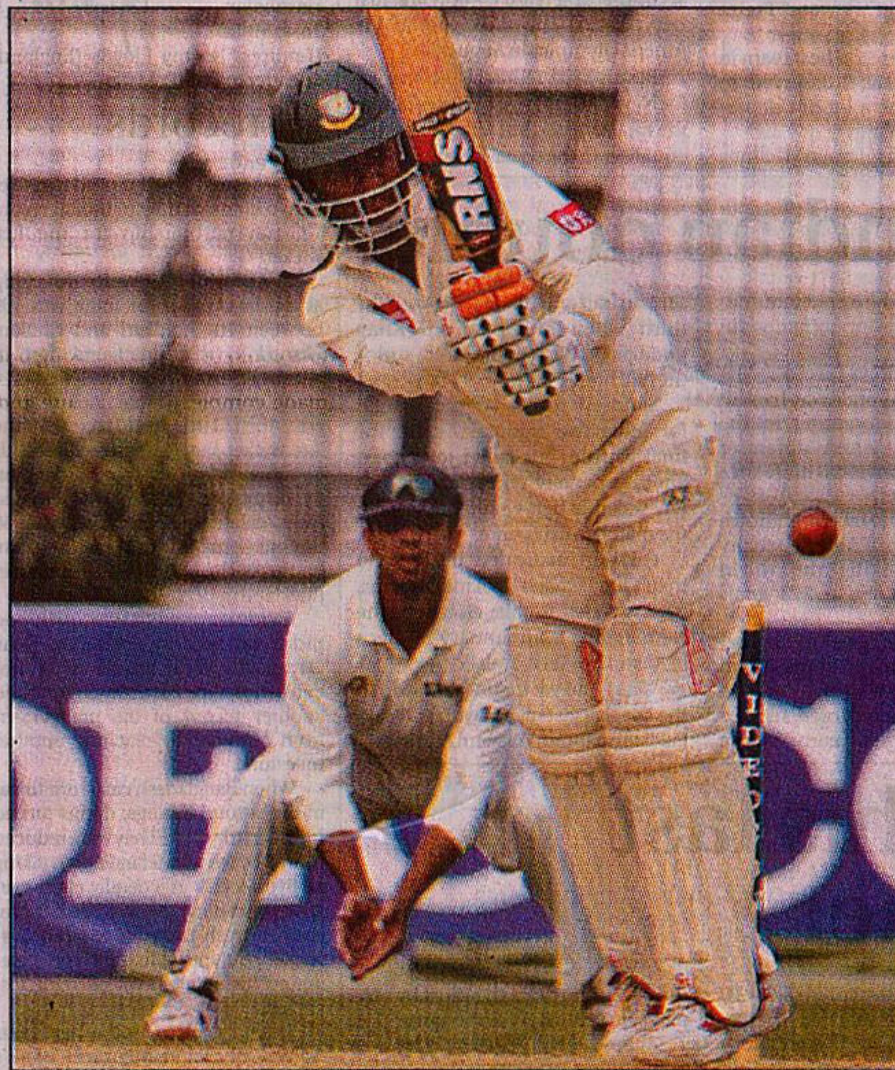
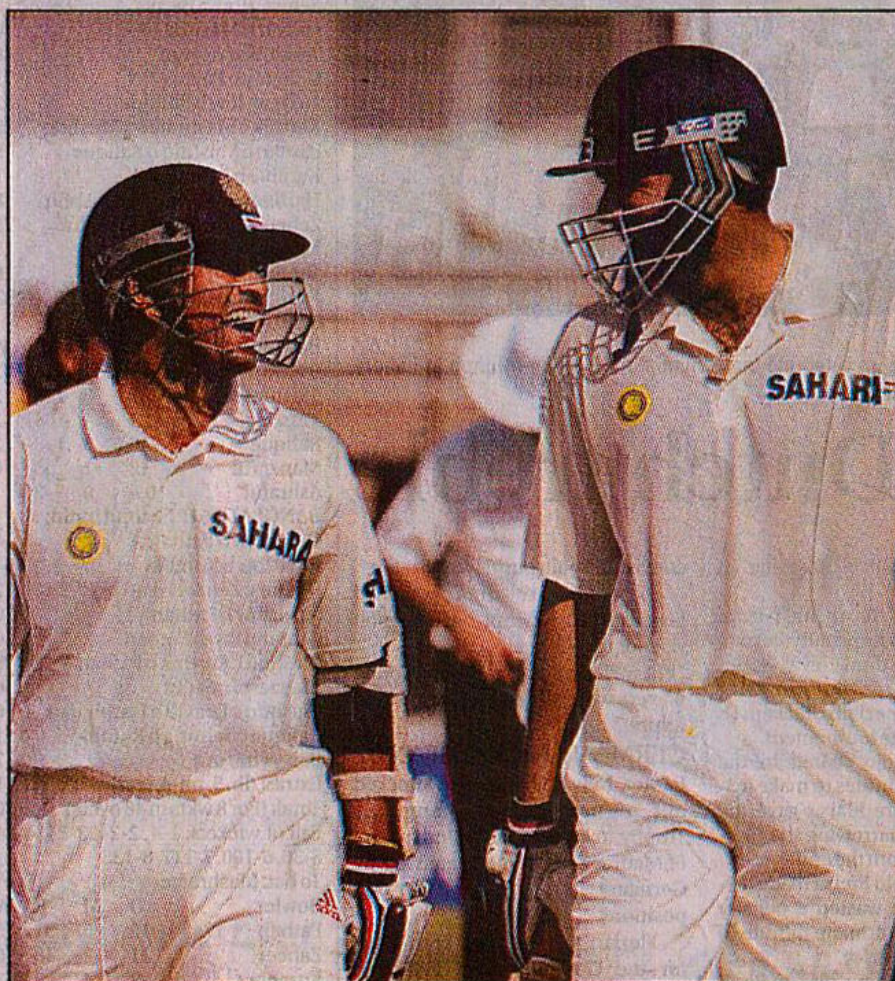
Khan hit a swashbuckling 48-ball 63 as DOHS piled up 266 before being all out in exactly 50 overs.

They were 24-2 after being put into bat at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium but man-of-the-match Zahoor, who hit ten fours and a six, repaired the damage with Hannan Sarkar (39 off 74 balls) during a 92-run stand for the third wicket.

Akram, the only other player to cross double figures, blasted eight fours and one six in his undefeated innings to give his side a fighting total against some hostile bowling by Ashiqur Rahman (4-35) and Pakistani leg-spinner Shahed Mahmood (3-43).

Prolific wicket-takers Hasibul Hassan and Nazmul Hossain maintained their form as Uttara, despite a fine 58 by Moniruzzaman and 43 from Asadullah Khan, were eventually skittled out for 156 in 46.3 overs. It was DOHS' fourth win in five matches.

## A DAY OF FIRSTS



CLOCKWISE: Indian master batsman Sachin Tendulkar (248 not out) and Zaheer Khan (75) walk back to the dressing room after scoring their highest individual Test knocks. Young Indian left-arm paceman Irfan Pathan successfully appeals for an lbw decision on way to his first 10-wicket haul in a match. Bangladesh opener Nafees Iqbal flicks during his maiden Test fifty. Left-handed Manzarul Islam sweeps in his unbeaten 50, his first half-century, on the third day of the first Test at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

PHOTOS: ANSUR RAHMAN

## No Mashrafe bin-Mortuza in Chittagong?

SPORTS REPORTER

Pace ace Mashrafe bin-Mortuza is set to be rested in the second Test against India in Chittagong.

The selectors are likely to announce a 14-member squad today for the second and final Test which is scheduled to begin on December 17 at the MA Aziz Stadium.

According to a source, the Bangladesh think-tank sat in a meeting yesterday evening in which the decision to rest the 22-year-old came considering he had only returned to playing after a year out to injury. The selectors also reportedly decided to drop Rajin Saleh, who made ducks in both innings in Dhaka, for local boy Aftab Ahmed in the playing XI.

Mashrafe, who bowled 31 overs in the Indian first innings including

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## Salman tipped to open

### Cricket

AFP, Perth

Salman Butt is certain to open the Pakistan batting in the first Test against Australia starting on Thursday on a wicket which his opposite number believes will have the fast bowlers "licking their lips".

Salman has been by far the most consistent of the Pakistan batsmen so far on tour and was again the only one to offer serious resistance during the 10-wicket capitulation to Western Australia which finished a day early on Saturday.

His 47 on top of a century in a one-day match last week has earned Salman to try to take the shine off one of the world's best bowling attacks in Glenn McGrath and Jason Gillespie, with the possi-

bility of speed king Brett Lee also taking his place in the side.

But the affable 20-year-old, who first opened for Pakistan against Bangladesh in Multan last year, said he was not nervous.

"It had to happen one day -- when you play at the top level you have to face everyone," he said.

"So that doesn't matter ... whatever comes in the way comes in the way."

"Cricket has been my passion since I was a small child. It is coming early to me but what I have prayed for is coming to me."

Despite Pakistan's failure to find serious form so far on tour, the Australians remain wary of a team known for its ability to produce top-class cricket in big contests.

Former Australian Test great Dennis Lillee has already warned against writing Pakistan off and opening batsman Justin Langer

agrees, maintaining any team which includes Shoaib Akhtar in its attack will be dangerous.

Akhtar bowled just 17 overs in short bursts over the three days of the match against Western Australia but Langer said the Pakistanis were using him perfectly.

"If I was the captain of Pakistan I would bowl Shoaib (Akhtar) exactly how they do bowl him," he said.

"I'd bowl him in short bursts ... I'd have him running in and bowling as fast as he could even if it's only three or four-over spells because I can assure you that he's the guy you worry about when you go to bed at night."

Langer, who opened for Western Australia in the win over Pakistan, said the Western Australian Cricket Association ground wicket -- also the venue for the first Test -- had been superb.

"Guys that applied themselves

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## Bangladesh-India Series Quiz 4

Which two are the only Indian bowlers to secure more than 400 test wickets?

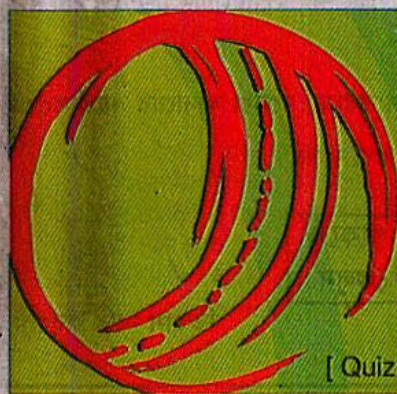
- A Javagal Srinath & Venkatesh Prasad B Harbhajan Singh & Anil Kumble C Anil Kumble & Kapil Dev D Javagal Srinath and Prabhakar

Answer by sending SMS\* to the number 2003

e.g. If your answer is (A) then write Quiz1 A and send it to 2003

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

\*Charge Applicable



[ Quiz 3 answer: C ]



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