WIRELESS SOLUTION



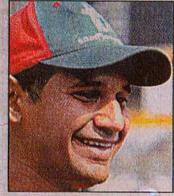


Enamul Haque (6/45 against Zimbabwe registered the best ever bowling figures for Bangladesh, bettering Mohammad Rafique's 6 for 77 against South Africa at Dhaka in 2002-03.



Sportscentre Live at 8:30 pm STAR Sports Sportsline





Habibul Bashar

(Bangladesh cricket captain) "It is the best day of my life. I will never forget that I was a member of the side that won the maiden Test for the country.'



Green Delta Premier Cricket League Brothers Union vs Old DOHS (FCS Young Pegasus vs Orient SC (BKS) Bimarr Vs Indira Road (DCS)

SL go to NZ in **April for Tests**

REUTERS, Wellington

Sri Lanka's abandoned tour of New Zealand has been rescheduled for

New Zealand Cricket officials announced on Tuesday that two Tests would be played from April 4-8 and 11-15 at venues still to be decided.

The Tests were originally scheduled to take place this month but were postponed because of the south Asian tsunami disaster.

The Sri Lankans were already in New Zealand when the tsunami struck on December 26 and had played the first of five scheduled one-day matches when the tour was called off.

New Zealand Cricket chief executive Martin Snedden said the four remaining one-day games would be held in December this year.

He also announced the Kiwis would host three one-day matches later this month against a Rest of the World team captained by Australia leg-spinner Shane Warne to raise money for tsunami victims.

The games will be held in Christchurch on January 22. Wellington on January 24 and Hamilton on January 26.

"We decided it was something we could have a real crack at instead of spending two weeks down in the dumps about the fact that the cricket season had been so badly affected," Snedden said.

REST OF THE WORLD

Shane Warne (Australia, captain) Sanath Jayasuriya (Sri Lanka), Andy Flower (Zimbabwe), Nick Knight (England), Graeme Hick (England) Kumar Sangakkara (Sri Lanka), lan Harvey (Australia), Lance Klusener (South Africa), Heath Streak (Zimbabwe), Muttiah Muralitharan (Sri Lanka), Chaminda Vaas (Sri Lanka) Matthew Elliott (Australia), Andy Bichel (Australia), Michael Bevan (Australia), Justin Langer (Australia), Jonty Rhodes (South Africa, player/coach).

Winning group unchanged

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

With their eyes firmly zeroed on a maiden series victory now that the first Test victory is out of the way, Bangladesh's selectors have retained the winning combination from Chittagong for the second Test against Zimbabwe set to start at the Bangabandhu National Stadium (BNS) from January 14.

The four-member selection committee announced an unchanged 13-member squad yesterday and chief selector Faruque Ahmed said that there will be no changes to the playing XI unless there were any serious injuries. However, a change in the weather pattern since yesterday, and prospects of gloomy skies during the Test could prompt a last minute shift in

There was gentle drizzles all day yesterday and the met office forecast more cloudy weather and rain for the next 2-3 days if the strong western depression now centred around Afghanistan, Pakistan and northwest region of India intensifies. A chilly overcast condition has prevailed almost everywhere in the country since Monday midnight due to the amalgamation of eastern and western depression of the Ganges in West Bengal.

Bangladesh captain Habibul Bashar was also aware of the twist in weather following five glorious sunny days in Chittagong, said that they will observe the conditions leading up to the Test and will make decisions accordingly if needed.

But for the moment, Bangladesh were happy with the way things have gone so far in the series and that entiment was echoed by Faruque.

"There is no point in making changes for the second Test. We should keep confidence with the heroes of Chittagong to win the series," said Faruque. The former national captain, who termed the Tigers' 226-run victory as the ushering of a new dawn in this country's

SOUAD

Habibul Bashar (captain), Khaled Mashud (vice-captain), Javed Omar Belim, Nafees Iqbal, Rajin Saleh, Mohammad Ashraful, Aftab Ahmed, Mohammad Rafique, Mashrafee-Bin-Mortuza, Tapash Baisya Manzarul Islam Rana, Enamul Haque and

cricket, said that there were contributions from each and every player in Chittagong.

Faruque defended retaining opener Javed Omar who looked all at sea against balls pitched short and also suffered a ligament injury which prevented him from fielding for the entire third day.

"Javed might not have looked convincing but you should consider his first innings contribution (33) that helped us reach our highest opening stand. There could be some other minor mistakes which we hope to rectify before the match," he

Faruque informed the, both Javed and champion left-arm spinner Mohammed Rafique were not hundred percent fit but their conditions were nothing serious. "We expect them to become fully fit before the match."

Both teams returned to Dhaka vesterday and Zimbabwe had a practice session scheduled in the afternoon but had to cancel it because of the drizzle. The Bangladesh players were given a deserved day's break. Both teams will practice today at the BNS.

Breaks between matches have mostly been bitter for Bashar's men SEE PAGE 14 COL 5



YOU LITTLE BEAUTY! Bangladesh's hero in the historic first Test win Enamul Haque being lifted by delighted Old DOHS club mates (L-R) Nazimuddin, Nazmul Hossain, Jamal Ujjal and Faisal Hossain when he went to the visit them on arrival from Chittagong yesterday.

BCB charges extra for tsunami fund

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

In a hid to collect the money Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) promised to donate to the tsunami funds, the board has decided to increase the prices of the tickets for the second Test and three one-day internationals that will be held at the Bangabandhu National

BCB's ticket and seating committee told at a press conference at a city hotel yesterday that the board had asked them to increase the prices as they had already pledged to donate 10,000 dollars to Sri Lanka, the worst affected country in the shattering events on Indian Ocean shorelines on December 26.

The board expressed their confidence that they would be able to earn more money this time than the just concluded series against India

where the last two one-day matches saw capacity-crowds at the big bowl. "We increased the prices to

collect the money to help the victims. We are hoping to earn Tk 25 lakh from the Test match and three one-day internationals. Previously, we did not have big turn-outs for the Tests matches, but now that the home side has won the first Test we expect a much bigger crowd here," said Khondokar Jamil Uddin, chairman of the committee.

ONE Bank, who has the right for selling tickets, will sell tickets from their five city branches -- Dilkusha's Principal, Gulshan, Dhanmondi, Uttara and Imamgonj -- today.

The second Test starts at the grand venue on January 14 while the first, fourth and fifth one-dayers will be held on January 20, 29 and 31

Managing Director of ONE Bank Syed Nurul Amin also spoke on the occasion.

FOLLOWING ARE THE RATES OF TICKETS

RATES FOR TEST: VIP - Tk 1,200 (package) and Tk 400 (per day), Executive Enclosure - Tk 500 (pack age), VIP (complimentary stand) Tk 1,200 (package), Tk 400 (per day) Club house (East) -Tk 300 (package) Tk 100 (per day), Special enclosure Tk 100 (package), Tk 30 (per day) International enclosure (East) - Ti 125 (package), Tk 40 (per day), International enclosure (West) - Th 150 (package), Tk 50 (per day), Western Gallery - Tk 75 (package), Tl

25 (per day), Eastern gallery - Tk 50 (package), Tk 15 (per day).
RATES FOR ODIs: VIP - Tk 1000, Executive enclosure - Tk 500, VIP (complimentary stand) - Tk 1000, Club house (East) - Tk 400, Special enclosure - Tk 75, International Enclosure (East) - Tk 100, Interna-tional Enclosure (West) - Tk 100, Western gallery - Tk 40, Eastern gallery-Tk 30.

Hospitality boxes: Tk 60,000 (A/C box), Tk50,000 (non-A/C box).

Murali, Howard mend fences?

AFP, Melbourne

Sri Lankan spinner Muttiah Muralitharan has made his peace with Australian Prime Minister John Howard after the Aussie leader's 'chucker' call.

Asian Cricket Council chief executive Syed Ashraful Huq said the two met in the dressing-rooms after the Asian Tsunami Relief Appeal match here on Monday which raised 14.6 million dollars (11 million US) towards helping the tsunami victims.

Howard last year upset Sri Lankan cricket when he referred to Muralitharan as a "chucker", over his much-publicised doublejointed bowling action.

Muralitharan subsequently refused to tour Australia with the Sri Lankan team last July.

But Ashraful, the manager of the Asian XI, said the spirit of goodwill of the charity match had also extended to the post-match celebrations as he introduced Howard to the Asian XI "I took the prime minister to

Murali and he said 'Murali, welcome to Australia. We are very happy that you are back'," Ashraful said on Tuesday. "Murali smiled and so that thing

has blown over also. These sorts of occasions can do that."

Muralitharan, who has the most one-day international wickets with 369 from 238 matches, has been taunted by Australian fans over his bowling action with sections of crowds taking delight in shouting "no-ball" every time he bowled.

But on his return to the ground

where he was first no-balled by Australian umpire Darrell Hair in 1995, the Sri Lankan was greeted warmly by the 70,101 sellout MCG crowd on Monday. It may be a significant moment in the thawing of relations between the

champion spinner and Aussie fans and lead to Muralitharan shedding his reluctance to play in Australia. "The fact that Murali went on to the ground and was cheered by SEE PAGE 14 COL 5

Cricket's wooden fielder blown down!

REUTERS, London

The only tree inside the boundary of a first-class cricket ground has been blown down by high winds after 158 years as a wooden fielder.

The lime tree at Kent's ground in Canterbury, south-east England. deprived generations of players of a

"It was a very, very effective fielder," said club curator David Robertson on Tuesday. "We feel shock and sadness

really, it was one of the great traditions of Kent cricket." Shots blocked by the tree were counted as a four and only three batsmen cleared the 90-foot tree to score a six -- Middlesex's Jim Smith in 1939, and West Indians Learie

Constantine in 1928 and Carl

Hooper in 1992. The club might replace the tree, blown down early on Saturday, and is considering turning its remains into souvenirs, Robertson told this

Return game in Kolkata?

Cricket

AFP, Melbourne Kolkata is the likely venue for the return Asian Tsunami Relief Appeal cricket match next month, the International Cricket Council (ICC)

said Monday. ICC chief executive Malcolm Speed said there was a small window of opportunity to stage the game between England's scheduled finish to their five-Test series in South Africa on February 13 and Australia starting their tour to New Zealand on February 17.

"We need to fly players in and out and have them there long enough for them to perform at a very high level," Speed told a press conference after the Rest of the World beat Asia by 112 runs at the Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG).

"We're not entirely sure we're going to accommodate both in the match at the MCG, two groups of players but we'll know in catchings and three stumpings in the next day or so, but one way or the world eleven's massive innings

another I would expect the of344 for eight. Australian players will be playing, they have an eagerness and willingness to play in the next game.

"I was very hopeful that we

would have a date before today so

we could announce it but we're not quite there yet. "We need to make calls to England and India and I think we're probably there with a date tonight."

Speed said Kolkata's vast Eden Gardens arena would be favourite to stage the match, while the Sri Lankan capital Colombo had also been discussed.

Meanwhile, Sri Lankan wicketkeeper Kumar Sangakkara believes the entire Asian region will benefit from the unifying influence of the international cricket games raising funds for the Tsunami Relief Appeal.

We were here today for a cause. The people back home are always on our minds," said Sangakkara, who was involved in five dismissals

that was dominated by bowlers.

one of the world's premier venues.

"When you usually play cricket your emotions are left back in the dressing room when you take the

when everyone involved, including the players, the crowd, the viewers watching around the world and those in the affected countries had. very strong visuals for what is presented as sport, of hope. "At the end of the day it was a

"But today was one of the days

very valuable contribution by everyone concerned, which I believe will do a lot for the entire

Asia XI skipper Sourav Ganguly said: "I think being out on the field was more important than the result, it was a game for a cause and we are very happy with the way it

"We have our thoughts for the people who have been affected, people have lost their families, their dear ones who can't be replaced.

"But what we can do is try to do

When the wait ended

Cricket

COMPILED BY LENIN GANI

The first steps by an infant are both perhaps the most challenging and also memorable moments for any parent. The same analogy can be used to describe Bangladesh's historic Test triumph over Zimbabwe at Chittagong's MA Aziz Stadium on Monday.

Until that momentous occasion Bangladesh, a Test-playing nation for four years and two months, had played 34 Tests but of them 31 ended in defeat and there were only three draws (two by the forces of nature against Zimbabwe!).

The 226-run victory over the Zimbabweans in the first Test meant Bangladesh, who played their Inaugural Test on November 10 against India in Dhaka, had moved straight into ninth place in the 10team Ivy League ahead New Zealand. Not bad considering the fact while New Zealanders required 45 Tests and 26 years to earn their win in the longer-version of the game, The Tigers' achievement came in 10 fewer Tests.

We now need to piecemeal how long it took each country to post their first Test win.

Australia had the honour of win-

Englishmen who crashed to 108 in the face of Kendall sensational 7-55. England however hit back in the second Test defeating their archrivals by four wickets. Australia paid the price for conceding a 139-run

first innings lead to their rivals who stormed to victory and level the historic series. For once Bannerman could not rescue the hosts in either essay. Batting first Australia made 122 and England replied with 261 thanks to Ulyet's half-century. The hosts made an improved 259 but the visitors reached the 121-run target thanks to another important contri-

ning the first-ever Test in 1877 whey beat England by 45 runs at the MCG. bution by Ulyett (63). Pakistan also had the privilege to Barring Australian opener win a Test in just their second match when another rivalry in Asia began Charles Bannerman (165 retired hurt) becoming the first ever Test with an innings and 43 runs in 1952. centurion, the game's oldest rivals were involved in a low-scoring affair Pakistan roared back from losing their Inaugural Test against their neighbours with pace great Fazal Mahmood wrecking the home side twice; first with 5-52 in India's 106 all After the home side chose correctly they made a modest 245 in their first innings. Bannerman out. Then he bagged seven wickets

single-handedly carried the to rout India again for 182. Australians with a 265-ball knock West Indies won their first-ever that included 18 glorious fours at Test at the sixth attempt when they defeated Australia by 30 runs at SCG in 1931. Riding two centuries by England were dismissed for 196 with Midwinter capturing the first-ever fiver (5-78). And although Martin (123) and the great George Headley (105) and Grant's 62, the Australia were restricted to 104 Caribbean cricketers piled up a following Shaw's 5-38, the target of massive 350-6. In response, cricket's co-founders managed 224 with the 154 proved too much for the legendary Sir Donald Bradman making a pale 43. The Australians faired no better in pursuit of 251 as they stumbled to 220 all out after

The Don fell for a rare 11-ball duck. Zimbabwe needed 11 Tests to post their first win at the Harare Sports Club ground when they trounced Pakistan by an innings and 64 runs. Zimbabwe blossomed with the Flower brothers Grant and Andy cracking 201 (not out) and 156 respectively to build a formidable total of 544-4. Guy Whittall chipped in 113. Despite three half-centuries

SEE PAGE 14 COL 4

FACT BOX

The following grap	h depicts the first Test to	riumphs for all the Test playi	ng countries:		
Country	FirstTest	First Test Win	Test	Opponents	Venue
Australia	March 1877	March 19,1877	1st	England	Melbourne
England	March 1877	April 4,1877	2nd	Australia	Melbourne
Pakistan	Oct 1952	Oct 26,1952	2nd	India	Lucknow
West Indies	June 1928	Feb 26,1930	6th	England	Georgetown
Zimbabwe	Oct 1992	Feb 5,1995	11th	Pakistan	Harare
South Africa	March 1889	Jan 4,1906	12th	England	Johannesburg
SriLanka	Feb 1982	Sept 11,1985	14th	India	Colombo, PSS
India	June 1932	Feb 10,1952	25th	England	Madras
Bangladesh	Nov 2000	Jan 10, 2005	35th	Zimbabwe	Chittagong
New Zealand	Jan 1930	March 13,1956	45th	West Indies	Auckland



DHAKA'S DELIGHTI Zimbabwe captain Tatenda Taibu (R), Hamilton Masakadza (C) and Douglas Hondo eagerly sorts through DVDs at a shop at Hotel Sonargaon yesterday.