



## Did U Know?

Football was the first team sport added to the Paris Olympics in 1900



**Sania Mirza**  
(Indian tennis sensation)  
"Maybe if I were a guy I would be playing cricket."  
While disclosing where her priorities lie.



**ESPN**  
Football Crazy  
Live at 9:00 am  
English Premier Football League  
Bromwich vs Birmingham City  
Live at 5:55 pm  
Everton vs Blackburn Rovers  
Live at 10:00 pm  
Brazilian Football  
Palmeiras vs Santos  
Live at 12:55 am (Monday)  
**STAR Sports**  
South Africa vs Zimbabwe  
First Test, Day 3  
Live at 2:30 pm  
Primeria Liga  
Deportivo vs Malaga  
Live at 1:55 am (Monday)



## India-Pakistan series on Sony

BBC/CRICINFO, undated

Pakistan's Test and one-day series in India will be televised internationally by Sony Entertainment Television after a last-minute deal.  
"Sony has been given the satellite rights for the (three Tests and six one-day internationals) series for 11.5 million dollars," said Ranbir Singh Mahendra, president of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI).  
"I was authorised by the BCCI's working committee earlier this week to take the decision on satellite rights," said Mahendra. "Since Sony was the highest bidder, it was given the rights."  
India's TV rights have been subject to an ongoing court battle but a stop-gap arrangement was agreed last month.

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## Zia keeps lead

**SPORTS REPORTER**  
Grand Master Ziaur Rahman won the eighth round board against national junior champion Mehdi Hasan Parag to maintain his solo lead in the Mercantile Bank 31st National Chess Championship at the federation hall room yesterday.  
The leader improved his tally to 7.5 points.  
Grand Master Niaz Murshed beat Mainuddin Ahmed in this round to follow the leader with 7 points while International Master Reefat Bin Sattar was in the third position securing six points. Reefat beat Syed Mahfuzur Rahman Emon.

# Mahmud puts Dhaka atop



SPORTS REPORTER

Khaled Mahmud defied a sore shoulder when he bowled holders Dhaka into a commanding position against hosts Rajshahi on the second day of their Ispahani Sixth National Cricket League match at the Shaheed Chandu Stadium in Bogra yesterday.  
The Dhaka captain, who did not bowl in the first innings due to pain in his left shoulder, took five wickets to send Rajshahi crashing to 179 in their second innings.  
Set a victory target of 185 with two more days in hand, Dhaka were 18 for no loss at stumps.  
The visitors need a further 167 runs for their first outright victory after two draws at home.  
When bowlers dictated terms at Bogra, batters flourished at the Barisal Divisional Stadium, where home opener Nasiruddin Faruque slammed a century to guide his side to 282-5 against Sylhet, who were dismissed for 202 on the first day on Friday.  
At the Chittagong Divisional Stadium, the hosts piled up 461. But

Khulna, in their chase, were in danger of following-on after they had slumped to 68-4 at close of the day's play.

### DHAKA-RAJSHAHI

Bogra certainly turned out to be bowlers' paradise when Mahmud became the third medium-pace to take a five-wicket haul after Alamgir Kabir and Sumon Shaha did it for Khulna.  
Alamgir added another wicket to his overnight figures of 4-33 while Sumon finished with 5-40 as Dhaka, resuming the day on 107-5, were bowled out for 135, giving Rajshahi a first-innings lead of five runs.  
But at the end of the day, Dhaka emerged on top with Mahmud starting the carnage by removing opener Zahirul Islam for a duck.  
Soon Rajshahi collapsed to 53-6 before Hasanuzzaman, captaining Rajshahi in the absence of suspended skipper Khaled Mashud, gave the innings some respectability with a 121-ball 67.  
Mahmud finished with five for 50 in 22.4 overs while his young partner Dipoojal Roy, who captured two wickets in the first innings, took three for 31.  
Openers Rashedul Haque (6) and Anwar Hossain (10) safely ended the day for Dhaka.

### CHITTAGONG-KHULNA

Ehsanul Haque took his overnight 107 to 132 while Mohammad Rabbi (59) and Habib Moballek (46) made useful contributions down the order as Chittagong, resuming the day on 327-5, added another 134 runs before being all out before tea.  
Chasing a huge total, Khulna, without their inspirational captain and Bangladesh skipper Habibul Bashar, lost wickets at regular intervals. They were tottering at 86-4 after the Chittagong new-ball pair of Gazi Alamgir (2-12) and Moballek (2-23) bowled with venom under fading lights.  
Monirul Islam was batting on 27 and Jamaluddin remained not out on 19 when balls were drawn for the day.  
**BARISAL-SYLHET**  
Nasiruddin Faruque hit an unbeaten 133 as Barisal got off to a flying start in their chase for an outright victory.  
After losing his opening partner Tariqul Islam in the very second over, Nasiruddin repaired the innings, putting on 94 runs for the second wicket with Imran Ahmed, who fell for one run short of his fifty.  
Nasiruddin then added 141 runs for the fourth wicket with Shaheen

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## BCB constitution challenged in HC

UNB, Dhaka

The High Court yesterday issued rule upon the Sports Secretary, National Sports Council (NSC) and Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) to explain why the BCB constitution-2003 should not be declared illegal.  
The court ordered them to restrain from acting upon the impugned constitution -- meaning uncertainty of election to BCB that already expired its 4-year term on Thursday.  
The order came upon a writ filed by three directors of BCB challenging the legality of its constitution-2003.

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## Musharraf waits for invitation from India

AFP, Islamabad

Pakistan's President Pervez Musharraf would consider going to watch his country's cricketers on their first tour of rival India for six years if he is invited, officials said Friday.  
"I love watching sports and I also love cricket, but I would not go anywhere where I am not invited. If I am invited to watch cricket, I would consider," a presidential spokesman quoted Musharraf as telling Al-Arabiya television.

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PHOTO: ZOBAER HOSSAIN SIKDER

**Khulna middle-order batsman Monirul Islam sees off a rising ball on the second day of their National Cricket League match against hosts Chittagong yesterday.**

# Zim humbled in two days



AFP, Cape Town

Zimbabwe became only the third team in modern times to lose a Test inside two days when they were beaten by an innings and 21 runs in the first Test by South Africa here at Newlands on Saturday.  
The hosts laid the foundations for the humiliating thrashing by skittling out Zimbabwe for 54 runs on Friday in their first innings.  
Only twice since 1945-46 has a match ended in two days -- when England beat the West Indies at Leeds in 2000 and when Australia defeated Pakistan in Sharjah in 2002-03.  
Zimbabwe at least put up sterner

resistance in their second innings with a defiant innings of 72 by Dion Ebrahim and some late sloggery by Andy Blignaut almost forcing the hosts into batting again -- but the tourists were finally bowled out for 265. Mainly due to Ebrahim, Zimbabwe put up a reasonably respectable showing on the second day after being thoroughly out-classed on the first day when they were bowled out for a record low total of 54 and South Africa raced to 340 for three in 50 overs. South Africa declared at their overnight total but Zimbabwe did not capitulate as easily as they had the previous day.  
Stuart Matsikenyeri and Barney Rogers put on 25 for the first wicket before Rogers and Ebrahim added 34 for the second wicket. Both opening batsmen fell to fast bowler

Makhaya Ntini, who took two for 34 in a 10-over opening spell.  
Ebrahim and Hamilton Masakadza then batted enterprisingly in a third wicket stand of 98 in 107 minutes.  
In contrast to the first innings, when the Zimbabwe batsmen were reduced virtually to strokelessness, the batsmen kept the score moving and South African captain Graeme Smith had to modify the attacking fields he started with.  
It looked as though the match would go into a third day before Masakadza cut left-arm spinner Nicky Boje to Herschelle Gibbs at backward point after making 46 off 78 balls with seven fours.  
The rest of the Zimbabwe batsmen were unable to follow the

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# Records roll in Cape Town



REUTERS, Cape Town

South Africa's first innings of 340 for three declared scored against Zimbabwe at Newlands on Friday was the fastest in the history of Test cricket.  
The home side declared their innings closed on Saturday morning after Zimbabwe were bowled out for 54. South Africa scored their runs off 50 overs at 6.8 per over.  
They surpassed the previous record of 296 off 51 overs at a rate of 5.8 held by Australia against South Africa in Johannesburg in 2002-2003.  
It was the third world record of the match following Jacques Kallis'

whirlwind half-century off only 24 balls and the 286-run first innings lead after the first day of a Test.  
All-rounder Kallis smashed the fastest 50 in Test cricket after his team skittled out Zimbabwe for their

## ASTEST TEST 50

Balls	Batsman	Country
Fastest Test match 50s after South Africa's Jacques Kallis set a new record in the first Test against Zimbabwe here on Friday:		
24	J Kallis	SAfrica
26	I Botham	England
27	Y Youhana	Pakistan
30	Kapil Dev	India
31	H Cronje	SAfrica
32	V Richards	WIndies
32	I Botham	England

lowest Test score.  
On a day when records tumbled, Kallis completed a successful day for the hosts by following up his haul of four for 13 by bringing up his half-century in just 24 deliveries.  
Kallis hit five sixes and three boundaries before being out for 54.  
The all-rounder hit a six off Graeme Cremer to reach the landmark and eclipse the record of England all-rounder Ian Botham, who had taken 26 balls to score 50 against India in the 1981-82 season.  
The Zimbabwean's paltry total beat their previous worst showing of 63, which was against West Indies in 1999-2000 season.  
Zimbabwe won the toss and chose to bat but were dismissed in 31.2 overs with only opening bat

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PHOTO: AFP

**IT DOESN'T GET ANY BIGGER THAN THIS!** Indian Jaspal Singh Kalshi displays a 2.5-inch wooden cricket pitch in Amritsar yesterday ahead of the mouthwatering series between India and Pakistan.

## SPONSORSHIP ROW WI drop Lara & six others

REUTERS, London

West Indies captain Brian Lara is one of seven senior players who will not be selected for the home series against South Africa and Pakistan because of a sponsorship dispute.  
The dispute centres around a potential clash between the West Indies' main official sponsor Digicel and the seven players' personal deals with Cable and Wireless.  
In a statement West Indies Cricket Board (WICB) president Teddy Griffith said Lara, Ramnaresh Sarwan, Chris Gayle, Dwayne Bravo, Dwayne Smith, Fidel Edwards and Ravi Rampaul would not be selected until the WICB was satisfied that their personal contracts would not infringe on the team deal made with Digicel.  
"The Board cannot allow the whole structure of West Indies cricket to be put in peril as a result of individual contracts which will profit a few 'layers on the West Indies team as opposed to bringing benefit to the entire West Indies cricket family," Griffith said.  
The WICB said they had written

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## FEDERATION CUP

## Arambagh through

SPORTS REPORTER

The lineup for the final round of Tibet 20th Federation Cup football tournament was completed yesterday when Arambagh Kirra Sangha booked their place with a solitary goal victory against Bangladesh Army.  
Akbar Hossain Ridon struck the all-important goal in the 80th minute at the Birshreshtha Shaheed Mostafa Kamal Stadium in Kamalapur as the Premier League side got through to the eight-team final round as Group C champions.  
Youngmen's Club Fakirerpool and Dhaka Wanderers Club have already qualified for the round as group champions.  
Muktijoddha Sangsad Kirra Chakra, Mohammedan Sporting Club, Abahani, Brothers Union and Sheikh Russel Kirra Chakra got direct entry into the final round.  
Meanwhile, the tournament faces a long break as the Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) has decided to hold the Independence Cup from March 10 at the Bangabandhu National Stadium.  
The date for the final round has not been fixed yet.

## Victoria blank Shantinagar

SPORTS REPORTER

Victoria Sporting Club handed Shantinagar Sporting a 4-0 defeat in the Green Delta First Division Hockey League at the Maulana Bhasani National Hockey Stadium yesterday.  
The winners led the first-half 2-0.  
Sumon struck twice while Ziaur Rahman and Mohan Kumar added one each.  
In the day's other match, Mukta Bihanga Tarun Sangha beat Bachelor Sporting Club 1-0 at the same venue. Kirshna Kumar netted the match decider in the early fifth minute.

# Weather hits Pak preps



AFP, Dharamshala

Pakistan's preparations for the first Test against India suffered a setback as only 11.4 overs were bowled due to bad weather on the third and final day of their drawn practice match here on Saturday.  
Test-discard Mohammad Kaif and opener Dheeraj Jadhav were unbeaten on 49 apiece as an Indian Board President's team scored 120-1 in their first innings in reply to the tourists' 273 when the game was called off due to poor light.  
The bad weather disrupted play on all the three days in Pakistan's only warm-up match before the opening Test of a three-match series, starting at Mohali on Tuesday.  
Pakistan batted only once in the match, with only all-rounder Abdul Razzaq giving a good account of himself with an aggressive 63. His teammates remained short of practice as none could score a half-century.  
Pakistan now go into the first India Test without testing their

bowlers as only 34 overs were completed in the Board President's innings.  
Fast bowler Mohammad Sami, Pakistan's strike bowler in the absence of the injured Shoaib Akhtar, sent down just 11 overs for 37 runs.  
Key Pakistani leg-spinner Danish Kaneria also got limited opportunities to get into his rhythm as he bowled nine overs on a low, slow pitch.  
Seamer Navedul Hasan was the lone successful bowler, finishing with 1-17 off eight overs.  
Kaif, dropped from India's squad for the first Test, remained in contention for the remaining two matches with a solid 80-ball knock which contained seven fours.  
He put on 103 runs for the unfinished second wicket with Jadhav, who hit seven fours in his 113-ball knock.  
Pakistan will also play six one-day internationals on their first tour of India in six years.  
**SCOREBOARD**  
Final scoreboard of on the third and final day of the tour match between Pakistan and Indian Board President's XI on Saturday:  
**PAKISTAN:** First innings 273

(Razzaq 63, Kamal 43, Umar 37, Inzamam 35, Akmal 34; Rao 3-48, Gagandeep 2-60, Paul 2-60)	
<b>BP XI:</b> First innings (overnight 91-1)	
Jadhav not out	49
Parab b Naved	11
Kaif not out	49
Extras: (lb-6, nb-5)	11
Total: (For 1 wkt in 34 overs)	120
Fall of wicket: 1-17	
Did not bat: Patel, Rao, Patel, Raina, Powar, Rudrapratap, Gagandeep, Paul.	
<b>Bowler</b>	<b>O M R W</b>
Sami	11 2 37 0
Naved	8 4 17 0
Razzaq	6 0 36 0
Kaneria	9 1 24 0
<b>Result: Match drawn.</b>	

# Aussies keep it clean



AFP, Napier

A belligerent batting display by captain Ricky Ponting and Adam Gilchrist steered Australia to a 122-run win over New Zealand in a record-laden one-day match here Saturday to give the world champions a clean sweep of the five-match series.  
Ponting relished the flat batting pitch as he cracked 141 off 127 balls, while Gilchrist was merciless, hammering 91 off 61 balls as Australia reached 347 for five and then res-tricted New Zealand to 225 foreight.  
New Zealand skipper Stephen Fleming said his team had no answer throughout the series.  
"I'm not too sure what to say, we've been well and truly thumped by a magnificent side," he said.  
"It's not easy to take 5-0 but we'll

cop it on the chin and move on and become a better side for it."  
Ponting, who also picked up the man of the match award, said Australia had achieved their first target of the tour which has three Tests still to come.  
"We've played some great cricket on this tour. To come here and win 5-0 was what we hoped to do."  
In a run of records, Ponting passed Greg Chappell's highest score against New Zealand of 138 not out in Sydney in 1980-81 when he hit consecutive sixes off Craig McMillan off the final two balls.  
The innings beat New Zealand captain Stephen Fleming's ground record of 111 not out scored against Australia in 1997-98, and Australia's total was comfortably the highest at McLean Park, beating New Zealand's 277 for six against Pakistan in 1984-85.  
In his majestic innings, Ponting cracked 10 fours and five sixes for

the highest one-day score on a New Zealand cricket ground -- beating Glenn Turner's 140 against Sri Lanka at Eden Park in 1982-83.  
Gilchrist looked certain for his 11th one-day century before the recalled Tama Canning enticed a false shot to Craig Cumming at cover.  
He and Ponting added 92 for the second wicket before Ponting and Damien Martyn added another 75, with Martyn scoring 40.  
Daniel Vettori was again the standout New Zealand bowler, taking none for 37 off 10 overs, while Kyle Mills had one for 67, Lance Hamilton one for 76 and Canning one for 80, as a late charge by Australia saw 104 runs scored in the last 10 overs.  
Canning's was the most expensive 10-over spell for New Zealand against Australia, beating Jacob Oram's none for 77 in Sydney last year.

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PHOTO: AFP

**RAMPANT RICKY:** Australian captain Ricky Ponting flays one over mid-wicket during his sparkling unbeaten 141 against New Zealand at McLean Park yesterday.