# Cricket scorer fighting for life

SPORTS REPORTER

A young cricket scorer Md. Mahbubul Haque Shaheen is in need of urgent kidney transplant but financial constraint is preventing him from availing what could be a lifesaving treatment

The 30-year old has been suffering from kidney related complica-



MAHBUBUL HAQUE

tions for a long time with one kidney already damaged and the other infected as well. He underwent treatment at a clinic in Dhaka and later went to India in September last year. There, he was given six month's medication and asked to return by April 16 to have the transplant. But the cost of the transplant, which could be in the region of four/five lakh Taka is beyond Shaheen's means.

Bangladesh Cricket Umpires Association had appealed on his behalf to the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) for help in September last year but Shaheen, who started his scorer's career in 1997, has not received anything yet other than verbal assurance. Doctors here have said that Shaheen's condition was critical and any delay would minimise his chances of survival. Even in such delicate health, Shaheen has continued performing Tigers School Cricket competition as this is his only source of income

### FIFA RANKINGS

## Czechs move into second

AFP, Zurich

Football's world ruling body FIFA on Wednesday announced the world rankings (number in brackets indicates move in rankings from last

FIFA's top 20:

-		
1. Brazil 2. Czech Rep.	834 pts	(0) 7 8 3
(+2) 3. Argentina 4. France 5. Netherlands 6. England 7. Spain 8. Mexico 9. Portugal 10. Italy .USA 12. Greece 13. Sweden 14. Turkey 15. Ireland 16. Uruguay 17. Japan 18. Denmark 19. Iran 20. Germany	780 777 763 757 755 754 741 735 735 726 723 719 710 709 703 702 701 698	(0) (-2) (+2) (+2) (-2) (-2) (0) (0) (+1) (-3) (-1) (+1) (-1) (-1) (-2)

## Sylhet secure

### FROM PAGE 12 **BARISAL v CHITTAGONG**

In another low-scoring affair at the Barisal Stadium, opener Gazi Salahuddin's 62-ball 57 steered Chittagong to 172-8 in reply to the

hosts' 170-8. Wicketkeeper Dhiman Ghosh made a quickfire 39 from 33 deliveries in Chittagong's second win in the

## SCORES IN BRIEF

SYLHET-RAJSHAHI

RAJSHAHI: 112 all out in 35.4 overs (Moniruzzaman 21, Jubair 24; Zakwan 2-28, Parvez 3-33, Hasibul 4-15). SYLHET: 113 for 3 in 29.5 overs (Mabud 43 not out, Mawla 47 not out; Alamgir 2-

Result: Sylhet won by seven wickets. KHULNA-DHAKA

DHAKA: 190 all out in 49.5 overs (Mehrab 38, Fahim 30, Anwar 38; Monjurul 3-25, Shafiul 3-36, Zakir 2-50). KHULNA: 191 for 4 in 42.3 overs (Sahagir 33, Asadullah 56 not out).

**BARISAL-CHITTAGONG** 

Result: Khulna won by six wickets. BARISAL: 170 for 8 in 50 overs (Imran 31. Bikash 34, Mosharaf 41, Rajon 41 not out: Ilias 2-27. Hasan 3-28)

CHITTAGONG: 172 for 8 in 43.2 overs (Salahuddin 57, Dhiman 39 not out; Rajon 4-35)

Result: Chittagong won by two wickets.

## POINTS TARIF

1 01	ПГ	1/41	717.	_
Team	М	W	L	Pts
Rajshahi	10	8	2	16
Sylhet	10	7	2	15
Khulna	10	6	3	13
Dhaka	10	4	6	8
Chittagong	10	3	7	6
Barisal	10	1	9	2

# **UEFA** to get tough

Football

European football's governing body UEFA has vowed to crack down on trouble-makers following a season of violence highlighted by Inter Milan's Champions League fiasco.

"What we have seen is totally unacceptable," said UEFA chief executive Lars-Christer Olsson on the eve of a UEFA executive committee meeting.

"We will be strict and unbending. The message will be very clear."

UEFA is looking into new rules to bolster security at grounds and also to clamp down on managers like Chelsea's Jose Mourinho who accused Swedish referee Anders Frisk of talking to Barcelona coach Frank Rijkaard at half-time of their Champions League match.

"We need to look at sanctions which are not purely financial. we could, for instance, deduct points," said Olsson.

Inter Milan were fined 300,000 Swiss francs and ordered to play their next four European games behind closed doors after crowd trouble against AC Milan.

Inter fans threw missiles on to the San Siro pitch forcing the Champions League quarter-final second leg tie to be abandoned with AC Milan leading 1-0.

Two games will be added to the ban if Inter reoffend in the next three

It had been expected that Inter would face much harsher sanctions and the possibility of a ban from European competition had been mooted in some quarters.

But Olsson defended the nunishment. He said Italian law did not bar fans from taking flares to matches, only from throwing them onto the But he planned to get all

European federations to ban flares from stadiums

In 2001 Inter were ordered to play two European matches away from the San Siro and fined 35,000 pounds after similar crowd trouble at their UEFA Cup tie with Spanish side Alaves.

New sanctions could be presented to the UEFA executive committee meeting at Manchester on June 16-17.

Olsson warned that further incidents this season could lead to a country ban.

English clubs were banned from Europe for five years following the 1985 Heysel stadium tragedy when 39 fans were killed after Liverpool fans stampeded before the European Cup final against

Inter's violence was not the first time Italian fans have forced the abandonment of a match in the Champions League this season.

In September, a first phase match between Roma and Dynamo Kiev was stopped at half-time after Frisk was injured by a missile thrown from the crowd.

The object hit the Swedish referee as he was walking towards the tunnel and after receiving lengthy treatment on a bleeding forehead he decided to end the match for fear of further trouble.

Kiev, who were leading 1-0, were awarded the match, while Roma were given a three-match stadium ban and had to play their remaining group B games behind closed

# Imran sings Inzy song

Cricket

AFP, Karachi

Pakistan cricket legend Imran Khan Wednesday said Inzamamul Haq had matured as skipper during the tough cricket tour of India matured and helped his young side meet the challenge by his own example.

"For me the high point of the series was Inzamam's captaincy from the front and Sourav Ganguly's failure to do the same for India," Imran told

The 53-year-old Imran had severely criticised Inzamam's captaincy skills after Pakistan's 3-0 rout

"I had said that he did not lead from the front in Australia. But in India he looked more involved and captaincy seemed to have matured and improved him as a batsman as well,"

Ranked underdogs before the tour, Pakistan surprised critics by drawing a three-match Test series 1-1 with a come-from-behind win in the third Test at Bangalore and then upstaged India 4-2 in the one-day series on Sunday.

The 35-year-old Inzamam stood out both as captain and batsman, notching a brilliant 184 at Bangalore and capping his 100th Test with a win. "Inzamam doesn't realise his

ability as a batsman. I have been saying that he is the best batsman in the world for the past ten years," Imran said.

"Inzamam is probably the greatest match winner of Pakistan cricket as a batsman, much more than any of his contemporary batsmen," said Imran. who launched Inzamam as a 22vear-old during Pakistan's World Cup

Inzamam's 21st hundred in Bangalore was the 16th time his century had contributed to a

Imran also praised new vice-

captain Younis Khan's batting. "The other difference was Younis coming at number three. He changed the Bangalore Test with his double hundred and gave a solution to Pakistan's number three problems," said Imran, tipping Younis as a future

Younis overcame a poor batting and fielding performance in the drawn first Test at Mohali to hit a century in the second Test at Kolkata, which Pakistan lost.

He then propped up the tourists' batting with an epic 267 and a brilliant unbeaten 84 at Bangalore.

"Pakistan lost a home series to India last year primarily because they did not have a good number three batsman then." said Imran, referring to Pakistan's one-day and Test defeats against their long-time rivals

MINI HANDBALL

### Big win Women booters for BIT lose last match

**SPORTS REPORTER** 

Six matches of the Sunnydale 3rd mini boys' handball tournament were held vesterday at the Dhanmondi Women's Sports Complex.

BIT recorded the day's biggest victory when they brushed aside South Point 8-0. In other matches. Dhanmondi Tutorial edged Scholastica 4-3, Banani Vidya-niketan snatched an 8-7 win over Green Herald, Hope International beat Radiant International 6-2. British School defeated Summer Field 7-5 and Ansar & VDP beat St Jude's 8-6.



HE'S A JOLLY GOOD FELLOW! Real Madrid players hail goalkeeper Iker Casillas during a training session.

# 'The most galactic of the galacticos'

Football

Goalkeeper is the loneliest of posi-

Goalkeepers are most likely to a) get little praise for doing something right, b) get excessive damnation for doing something wrong, c) suffer obscene stereotyping for eccentricity and bizarre ritualistic behavior (eg. 1980's Liverpool legend Bruce Grobelaar and his knee wobble antics before penalties ) and d) receive vicious abuse from ball-boys.

Something goalkeepers are not used to is 1) being fodder for frontpage news and 2) having lengthy hyperbolic articles written about them. Cult fan status is more their

Even Bayern Munich and Germany superstopper Oliver Kahn, France circus acrobat Fabien Barthez and great Dane Peter Schmeichel never reached the kind of superstardom which now threatens to engulf their natural heir as fanfares, please! 'the greatest goalkeeper in the world'.

Such is the honor this week bestowed on Real Madrid's Iker Casillas. In a poll conducted by Marca newspaper, Casillas was named the best goal ie in the world with Peter Cech of Chelsea and Buffon of Juventus following in his wake. The poll was carried out among journalists from twenty different worldwide publications, including Italy's respected journal La Corriere Dello Sport, Europe's

The Bangladesh women's football

team ended their campaign in the

Asian Football Confederation (AFC)

Women's Under-17 Football

Championship with another defeat

24-0 to Japan before losing 3-2 to

Bangladesh twice drew level but

conceded the third goal seconds

Guam in the group stage.

**SPORTS REPORTER** 

top footie magazine, World Soccer, and British tabloid The Sun. "It's what I'm paid for..." said

modest Iker, when hounded down and disrupted from an otherwise relaxing and enjoyable break from the training field, by Marca writer Jose Felix Diaz.

"I've still got a lot to learn," said the spanish pin-up. Marca however was in no mood to downplay the burgeoning reputation of its herobetween-the-sticks

'He's the greatest!' it claimed. Exspain goalie Luis Arconada was only slightly less brazen in his interview. 'Casillas is Madrid's key player,

he gets better every year and there's no doubt he's one of the best in the Then there was Villarreal keeper Claudio Reina's assessment "Iker

is the most galactic of the

galacticos" which sounded more

like science fiction than soccer. Seldom does such an aura build around a goalkeeper in such a relatively young career. Yet, at only 23 vears-old. Casillas is taking his art to a higher level, managing even to outshine teammates Ronaldo, Zidane and Figo as this year's star

performer for Madrid With two leagues, two European Cups. one European Supercup and two Spanish Supercopas under his belt, Casillas has lost none of his hunger. In two difficult, so far trophyless campaigns, the young Spaniard has often meant the difference between victory and defeat or a merely bad result and an

With recent speculation indicating a big-dollar switch to Man-

chester United, Casillas's teammates must be, to coin an impolite English term, 'bricking it'. ie. rather worried about the prospect of a Casillas-less defense One accolade yet to evade the

Madrid no.1 is the one awarded each season to La Liga's most 'efficient' goalkeeper the Zamora. This award is named in honor of Ricardo Zamora, who at the tender age of 19 inspired Spain to silver in the 1920 Olympic Games. Zamora was recognized as the greatest of his day and became the hallmark for all future Spanish goalkeepers.

Five goalkeepers stand head and shoulders above the rest in Spanish soccer history as the wise soothsayers of Spanish footballing folklore would have you believe Zamora, Ramallets, Iribar Arconada and Zubizaretta. Each has won the Zamora (with frowns and harrumphs all round in Zamora's case winning his own bloody trophy the cheeky thing!).

In 192 games over the course of six years in the grey jersey, Casillas has joined this illustrious hall of fame. Buyo is Real's most experience goalkeeper of all time, with 343 games to his name.

On a blustery afternoon in the Calderon Stadium six years ago little Iker made his debut. That day Real Madrid scraped a 2-2 draw. will have under his belt, how many Zamoras, how many trophies, when in the far away future he hangs up his boots... (Internet Source)

batsman Shahriar Nafees.
In that event there is little or no chance for former Bangladesh captain Khaled Mahmud to make a

## FROM PAGE 12

CROSSWORD

ion

13 Adjoining

20 Maltese

money

40 All-in-

black

rock fan

of Tk one lakh while the runners-up Tk 75.000.

## Fed Cup final

The winners will get cash reward

By Eugene Sheffer

are pen-

ciled in

6 Compe-

7 Can't do

8 Curvy

letter

12 "CSI"

18 Rush

wildly

about

23 Wood-

tool

without

25 Waste

26 Unin-

28 Certain

not a

moment

hotel plan

# Mourinho's no-show!

Football

AFP, Lisbon

Chelsea manager Jose Mourinho on Tuesday cancelled his sports talkshow in his native Portugal just one day after it debuted because he said comments he made on the programme were misquoted by the world's media

"He put an end today to the doubts which were raised by the abusive use of statements taken out of context and altered by media from around the world," sports agency Gestifute, which represents the controversial coach, said in a state-

"Despite being aired on a Portuguese network, in practice this became a worldwide programme, so Jose Mourinho decided to put an end to this situation." it added.

"Added to this, Mourinho pointed to the internal regulations of the club (Chelsea), which he himself drew up, forbids similar actions in England." the statement said.

It added Mourinho had little time to prepare the show, and could not travel to Lisbon to take part in its taping, and this had hurt the quality of his communication.

During the heavily promoted show, which saw the Chelsea manager field questions posed by a reporter and audience members via a satellite link from London. Mourinho said he had respected a two-match ban slapped on him by He said it was absurd that offi-

Faria to lift his hat during Chelsea's Champions League tie against Bavern Munich last week to prove he was not equipped with an earpiece to receive instructions.

cials had asked his assistant Rui

"There was a ridiculous pursuit based on a false notion." he said

SIC reportedly had agreed to pay the 42-year-old more than 15,000 euros (19,500 dollars) a month for his opinions, which would have made him the highest-paid sports commentator on Portuguese televi-

Officials from the station have said they origianlly wanted Mourinho to host the show on a weekly basis but he agreed only to a monthly appearance citing a lack of The programme, called

'Mourinho", drew nearly 2.8 million viewers and was the 14th most watched programme in Portugal on Monday, figures by polling and media monitoring firm Marktest The one-hour show on private

television SIC was defeated in the ratings war by the broadcast of Sporting Lisbon's 3-1 away win against bottom of the table Moreirense on rival station TVI and two Brazilian soap operas carried earlier on SIC.

The football match was the most watched programme that day while the soaps occupied the next two spots in the list of most watched

Mourinho's show was also not the most-watched show on Portuguese television during its 11 pm slot, attracting 28.6 percent of those watching television at that time compared to 40 percent who tuned in to the Portuguese version of the reality TV show "Celebrity Farm" on TVÍ. His show however did beat out

state television RTP's broadcast of The Shoes of the Fisherman", a 1968 movie starring Anthony Quinn about the papal electoral process which drew a 14.9 percent audience

## Third Test starts today

SA aim at series win, WI at survival

Cricket

AFP, Bridgetown

For South Africa, in particular, and the West Indies, the third cricket Test, beginning on Thursday, is

A win in the third Test would give the visitors their fourth straight series victory over West Indies, since South Africa lead the four-Test series 1-0, following their comfortable eightwicket triumph in the second Test at Port of Spain.

The first Test at Georgetown ended in a draw, and the fourth and final Test at St. John's, begins on April

Ideally, West Indies would also desire a win, but would settle for a draw to avoid another setback on a ground that was once their fortress. But the South Africans have been

fortified with the return of veteran fast bowling all-rounder Shaun Pollock. who was sidelined for the first two Tests with an ankle injury that delayed his journey to the Caribbean.

South Africa could easily argue that they hardly missed Pollock during the first two Tests, particularly following Makhava Ntini's dismantling of the West Indies' batting in the second Test

**TEAMS** 

WEST INDIES (from): Shivnarine Chanderpaul (capt), Courtney Browne (v-capt), Dwayne Bravo, Chris Gayle, Ryan Hinds, Wavell Hinds, Brian Lara, Ramnaresh Sarwan, Daren Powell, Reon King, Fidel Edwards, Dwight Washington. SOUTH AFRICA (from): Graeme Smith (capt), Nicky Boje (v-capt), Mark Boucher, Abraham de Villiers, Boeta Dippenaar, Herschelle Gibbs,

Andrew Hall, Jacques Kallis, Charl Langeveldt, Andre Nel, Makhaya Ntini, Shaun Pollock, Ashwell Prince Jacques Rudolph, Monde Zondeki. Umpires: Billy Bowden and Simon

## Sachin to play

FROM PAGE 12 cricket fans in England to see the

great man play. "We have already secured some of the biggest names in world cricket, and expect the game to be a

"To have Sachin's name on the helping us reach our target of raising over 1 million pounds for the Oval Cricket Relief Trust."

The game is being held at England's oldest Test venue and the London home of Surrey County Cricket Club who are hoping it will raise in excess of one million nounds (1.88 million dollars) for the Oval Cricket Relief Trust.

The Oval Cricket Relief Trust has been set up with the intention of donating money to the rebuilding of a village in Sri Lanka, helping with the efforts in Grenada after the hurricanes in 2004 and being able to put money to one side in order to help with the next natural disaster in a cricket loving part of the world.

A one-day international match between Asia and the Rest of the World at the Melbourne Cricket Ground in January, barely a couple of weeks after the tsunami swept across Indian Ocean coastline on December 26, raised 11 million



Former England all-rounder lan Botham imparts some pace bowling tips to a group of schoolboys at the Galle International Stadium in Sri Lanka on Sunday. Botham is now in Sri Lanka to raise fund for tsunami victims

## Ronaldo nears century

**EUROSPORT.**COM

Goal-machine Ronaldo is just four short of bringing up a century of Liga strikes, and the Brazilian hitman is likely to reach the benchmark sooner rather than later if history is

but this time, they went down fighting anything to go by.

In less than four seasons in to Hong Kong in South Korea yester-Spain. Ronaldo has never scored Bangladesh, who lost 1-0 to Guam in their opener, were crushed

less than 20 goals a season. He has had some work to do in the 2004-2005 campaign, in which he has 'only' scored 15 goals thus

far. However, with three goals in his last two games, including a breathtaking solo strike against Levante last weekend, there are signs that Ronaldo is back to his best and ready to challenge Barcelona's

### Samuel Eto'o for the Pichichi award Muktis' fatal loss

shot from five yards. He then failed to connect an Arman cross from point-blank range. Muktijoddha coach Shafiqul

Islam Manik blamed luck for the

defeat.

"We played better here than in the away match. But I am confused about the second goal. It looked like an offside and I feel Aminul made no contact with the player. That was the turning point," Manik said.

"We dominated the second half

when they were negative but our

forwards were not up to it," said the

former national footballer. Meredov Amanm, the Nebithci coach who visited Dhaka last year with another Turkmenistan club Nisa FC, was understandably

weather. It was too hot and our players struggled towards the end. We are happy to beat a very good side and now we have a very good chace of qualifying for the knockout stage," said Amanm.

"We did not expect to win in this

## Surprise relief

FROM PAGE 12

Duleep Trophy in February.
If the Khulna boy is included then he will be the third new face in the team after fast bowler Shahadat Hossain Rajib and left-handed

## Test comeback.

ACROSS 42 Listener 1 Sew tem-44 Texas porarily 6 Weak, in 46 Dumbfounded 12 Shrek's 50 Quick look compan-52 Swindle

54 Family

sub-

DOWN

1 Papa

14 Author divisions Gordimer 55 Inquisitive 15 Decrease 56 Large bird 10 Concept 16 Seed coat dog 17 Propa-57 Fits like 19 Took a ka dolls meeting

porker 24 Upsilon follower can't get 27 Georgia up!" 3 Dexterity city 4 Pinochle (come to

for short blows) Solution time: 27 mins 32 They're "pieceful" 35 Faxed 36 Rani's around 37 Pismire 38 Popeye's

30 "Jeopardy! 9 Montana juggernau 31 Superla-11 Minimal ending change 33 Home for evidence 1-Down 34 Teen's 39 Moolah 21 George's 41 Uses another's

password shaping maybe 42 Diner 24 Nightwear, supply 43 Sheltered 45 Wardrobe

malfunc-47 Teensiest 48 Sea flock 49 Diploma

(Abbr.) 51 Trawler

equipment



XGHPIV LV ENSHDG

HIUUGHF

E I O O S V Z G H - L V - M N L G R . Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN YOU DECIDE TO PURCHASE YOUR OWN HORSE, YOU WILL EVENTUALLY HAVE TO PONY UP.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: U equals B The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the

puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.