



## Did U Know?

Mohammad Ashraf is now the only batsman from Bangladesh to post a hundred in the limited-overs internationals as well as in Tests.

## What to WATCH

### ESPN

Sportscentre  
Live at 8:30 pm  
FIFA Confederation Cup  
Japan vs Brazil  
Live at 12:40 am (Thursday)

### STAR Sports

Wimbledon Championships  
Second Round  
Live at 5:00 pm  
FIFA Confederation Cup  
Greece vs Mexico  
Live at 12:40 am (Thursday)



## TALK TURKEY



**Maria Sharapova**  
(Russian tennis star)  
"Yeah, I have time for boyfriends, but I don't talk about them."



**Day's Event**  
Premier Football League  
Brothers Union vs Mohammedan  
(5:00 pm)  
Venue: Bangabandhu National Stadium

## Tendulkar opens 'India Room' at The Oval

PTI, London

Sachin Tendulkar on Monday inaugurated the 'India Room' in the new stand at The Oval cricket stadium here.

Tendulkar was thrilled to open the new room at the refurbished stand.

"It is great honour. Surrey is my favourite ground where I played my hundredth Test. It was a special moment for me," Tendulkar said.

Leading UK-based industrialists raised 500,000 pounds for the 'Room'.

## Majumdar clinches U-10 chess crown

SPORTS REPORTER

Aniruddah Majumdar became unbeaten champion in the under-10 boy's chess tournament when he drew his last round game against Moinuddin Ahmed Asif at the Bangladesh Chess Federation's hall-room yesterday.

Aniruddah raised his tally to 6.5 points while Niaz Mohammad Tanveer, Asif and Soumik Saha finished with equal 5.5 points. So, progressive scores were required to determine their final places.



Bangladesh paceman Tapash Baisya trying to run out England opener Marcus Trescothick using his foot during their NatWest Series one-day international at Trent Bridge on Tuesday.

## Greg awaits his wards

Cricket

AFP, Bangalore

Top Indian cricketers will have their first opportunity to interact with new coach Greg Chappell when pre-season training camps begin at the National Cricket Academy here next week.

Chappell, the former Australian captain and batting great, was appointed India's coach last month to succeed New Zealander John Wright, who quit after a four-year term in April to spend more time with his family.

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) on Tuesday announced a list of 36 probables to attend pre-season training under Chappell before a one-day series against the West Indies and hosts Sri Lanka at the end of July.

"I look forward to meeting India's best cricketers," said Chappell. "It

gives me a chance to study the depth of the country's amazing talent."

The first camp from June 27 to July 4 will be reserved for 16 new-ball bowlers, including Test regulars Zaheer Khan, Irfan Pathan and Ashish Nehra.

The fast bowlers will be joined by 20 teammates for physical fitness and cricket camps from July 5 to 12 and July 13 to 22.

Most of the list was on expected lines and players with consistent performances in the domestic circuit -- like Jai Prakash Yadav, Suresh Raina and Niraj Patel -- were chosen. Parthiv Patel was the third wicketkeeper picked along with Dinesh Karthik and Mahendra Singh Dhoni.

The only selection that can be termed as a surprise was that of Munaf Patel, the fast bowler who plays for Mumbai. Munaf last played a first-class game way back in September 2004 and barring the

Irani Trophy game, missed the entire season owing to injury. Indian captain Sourav Ganguly, who is currently serving a six-match ban imposed by the International Cricket Council for slow over-rates and will miss the tri-series, was included in the list of probables.

Star batsman Sachin Tendulkar, recovering from elbow surgery that will keep him out of cricket till October, is not on the list.

But BCCI secretary Karunakaran Nair said Chappell had asked for Tendulkar to attend the camp for a few days.

The Indian team for the tri-series will be named on July 18. India are scheduled to tour Sri Lanka, Zimbabwe and Pakistan and host Sri Lanka and England during a busy period till March next year.

**PROBABLES**  
Batsmen: Sourav Ganguly, Virender

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## Holloioake turns up heat

Cricket

AFP, London

Former Surrey favourite Adam Holloioake returned to his old county ground The Oval here on Monday and inspired the International XI to a six-wicket victory over an Asian XI in the tsunami appeal Twenty20 match.

Holloioake -- whose brother and fellow Surrey stalwart Ben was tragically killed in a car crash a few years ago -- has spent the last few months on a beach in Western Australia but showed no rustiness as he took a hat-trick to end the Asian XI innings at 157 all out with five balls of it remaining.

His achievement earned a bonus of 100,000 pounds for the tsunami appeal which in all garnered at least 1.1 million pounds for the victims and their families of the tidal wave that wrought destruction in Asia on December 26 last year.

"Quite a homecoming huh," smiled Holloioake.

"This is for club cricketers all over the place, who like to bowl occasionally."

Rahul Dravid had topscored with 62 for the Asian XI but it was nothing on Australian Greg Blewett's unbeaten 91 off 61 balls for the International XI, leaving him frustratingly short of becoming only the ninth player to hit a century in this abbreviated form of cricket.

Blewett, who is playing village cricket for Lashings having once been the jewel in the crown of the

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Cricket superstars Sachin Tendulkar of India (L) and Brian Lara of West Indies talk as they leave the ground during the tsunami relief match at The Oval on Monday.

## Farashganj move to 2nd spot

SPORTS REPORTER

Farashganj Sporting Club's impressive run in the Premier Bank Premier Football League continued when they joined Brothers Union and Muktiyoddha Sangsad in second place with their fourth win at the end of the fifth round yesterday.

Felix and Amirul scored either side of the break to help Farashganj beat Dhaka Wanderers 2-1 to push their collection to 12 points. Wanderers pulled one back through Henry but stayed second-from-bottom with one point after four losses.

The old Dhaka outfit, whose only defeat came at the hands of holders Brothers, went in front after 13 minutes when prolific Nigerian striker Felix raced into the box down the left with a long ball from fellow compatriot Adafa before slotting home with an angular shot for his fourth league goal.

Substitute Amirul then sealed the victory in the 65th minute when he powered the ball into the back of the net from the edge of the penalty area after receiving a square pass from skipper Wallid.

Wanderers mounted heavy pressure and reduced the margin eight minutes from time when Nigerian forward Henry headed the ball past an outshining goalkeeper Zia after Farashganj stopper Faisal failed to clear a cross from rival rightback Govinda.

## Drama with Nafeeses

Cricket

AL-AMIN from Trent Bridge

If the statistics provided by the scorer at the Trent Bridge media box gives any indication of how productive Bangladesh is in giving debuts to young cricketers, then Shahriar Nafees is the latest inclusion in the long list.

The 19-year-old is the 77th cricketer to make his one-day debut for Bangladesh in their 109th ODI appearance, and it was dramatic to say the least.

The left-handed batsman from Dhaka only knew in the morning before the day-night NatWest Series match against England that he would be playing in place of out-of-form opener Nafees Iqbal.

Shahriar Nafees, who led the Bangladesh Under-19 team to Australia and played very well for the Bangladesh A team against Zimbabwe, has featured in two tour games in England.

He played against the British Universities in the three-day and scored a fifty in the second innings. He scored a first-ball duck in the second one-day practice game against Worcestershire.



SHAHRIAR NAFEES

It was a combined decision on late Monday night taken by coach Dav Whatmore and skipper Habibul Bashar that surprised those who thought that Bangladesh in all probability would retain the same side that turned the

world upside down with a five-wicket triumph over Australia in Cardiff on Saturday.

Whatmore, however, gave some food for thought to reporters at a press briefing on Monday when he said that he named the 13 probables for the rematch against England with Shahriar Nafees coming into the reckoning at the expense of all-rounder Khaled Mahmud.

A last-minute change is nothing new and Whatmore quite rightly decided to include Tapash Baisya against Australia after seeing the wicket at Sophia Gardens. But the manner in which Whatmore and rest of the team management played on the nerves of the reporters and to some extent with Nafees Iqbal, was unexpected to say the least.

Nafees Iqbal has certainly lacked confidence throughout the tour and Whatmore could have avoided the drama before making a decision because this particular change has little to do with the nature of the wicket or the conditions.

"We announced a list of 13 and that still stands and I can't tell you the final eleven before I disclose it to the players," Whatmore had said at the lobby of Hilton hotel with the players waiting for the team bus.

## DIV I SOCCER BRTC open account

SPORTS REPORTER

Two first-half goals helped BRTC Sporting Club register their maiden win in the First Division Football League with a 2-1 victory over second-placed Mohakhali XI at the Birshreshtha Shaheed Mostafa Kamal Stadium in Kamalapur yesterday.

Jashim put the winners ahead in the 18th minute and Shamim doubled it in the 43rd minute. Yasin pulled back one for Mohakhali in 69th minute.

BRTC, who began their second-leg campaign with three points, raised their tally to six points from eight matches while Mohakhali suffered their second defeat in as many matches to stay on 16 points.

## Nat'l v'ball qtrs today

SPORTS REPORTER

The men's quarterfinal line-up of the Pepsi National Volleyball Competition was completed at the Mirpur Shaheed Suhrawardy Indoor Stadium yesterday.

The Bangladesh Army meet Bangladesh Navy, Bangladesh Air Force take on Dhaka and Bangladesh Police encounter Kushtia today.

In the women's section, Rajshahi beat Khulna 25-20, 19-25, 25-22, 25-13.

## AGE-GROUP TOURNEY

## BCB invites a meeting

SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) has called a meeting of the Dhaka Metro and Dhaka Division School representatives to discuss the formation of different age-groups for the Standard Chartered Young Tigers National Championship.

Two meetings are scheduled to be held on July 1 and July 8 at 10 am at the Bangabandhu National Stadium. It will also finalise the fixtures.



Farashganj's Nigerian striker Felix (R), who scored his side's first goal, is challenged by a Wanderers defender during their Premier Bank Premier Football League clash at the Bangabandhu National Stadium on Tuesday.

## BROTHERS UNION V MOHAMMEDAN

## Battle for top spot today

SPORTS REPORTER

Brothers Union will have the edge when the defending champions make an attempt to regain top spot in the Premier Football League table today in their first big match against table-toppers Mohammedan Sporting Club.

The first match of the sixth round between the top two teams in the table will kick off at the Bangabandhu National Stadium at 5 pm.

Mohammedan, the only unbeaten side in the run, have 13 points from four wins and a draw while Brothers are second with 12 points from four victories.

The Oranges, still smarting from their 1-0 loss to lowly Arambagh in the previous round, will be at full-

strength with injured Moroccan midfielder Hicham Inani and ace defender Masud Rana returning to the line-up.

On the other hand, Mohammedan will be without inspirational captain Alfaz Ahmed for the second successive match. To add to their woes, the Black and Whites are going to miss Donald Robert of Sierra Leone, their only remaining foreign recruit after Moroccan Mohammed Regeeragui decided to return home last week.

With veteran goal poacher Nakib also doubtful, they will be forced to form an entirely new strike pairing in Manju and Faisal Mahmud -- who has been playing on the left side in midfield. The only solace is that they will have Hassan back from suspension to strengthen the central defence.

Mohammedan manager Imtiaz Sultan Johnny yesterday informed that they were yet to decide whether to recruit a third foreigner or not.

"We are facing the best team in the league and it would have been great if we had Alfaz. But we can do nothing about the injuries," the former national boater said.

Mintu or Kamal will have to play on the left side of a five-man midfield, which will be marshalled by Matiur Munna, who has regained full fitness according to the Mohammedan manager.

His Brothers counterpart Amer Khan admitted that they had to pay for underestimating Arambagh in the last round.

"It will be tough to beat a popular team like Mohammedan who have already found the rhythm. We have

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