

## Kapali called back

### BCB names side for Lanka ODIs

#### Cricket

##### SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) recalled Alok Kapali on Friday when it announced a 15-member squad for the three-match one-day series against Sri Lanka later this month.

The 22-year-old Sylhet right-hander, who played his last limited-overs game against Zimbabwe at Dhaka in 2005, was the lone inclusion in an otherwise unchanged side that played away against the Lankans last August-September.

Dashing batsman Tushar Imran, opener Nafees Iqbal, right-arm paceman Tapash Baisya, left-arm spinner Enamul Haque and paceman Shahadat Hossain were dropped from the list of 20 probables announced on January 28.

While giving his opinion on the current West Indies Cricket Board.

Habibul Bashar's men will play

their first two one-day games under lights at the newly approved Shaheed Chandu Stadium in Bogra on February 19 and 20 while the third and final match will take place at Chittagong on February 24.

"We have considered him (Kapali) as an all-rounder and we are thinking to use him in a different way. We have a problem in our top order so if Alok bats down the order then both the team and the batsman will be benefitted. Recently he has also improved his

#### SQUAD

Habibul Bashar (captain), Khaled Mashud (vice-captain), Khaled Mahmud, Mohammad Ashraful, Javed Omar, Rajin Saleh, Aftab Ahmed, Shahriar Nafees, Alok Kapali, Mohammed Rafique, Manjul Islam Rana, Mashrafee-Bin-Mortaza, Nazmul Hossain, Abdur Razzak and Syed Rasel.

SEE PAGE 13 COL 5

#### 2ND FINAL TODAY

### Aussies in an unfamiliar situation

AFP, Sydney

Australia have crashed from unbeatable favourites to facing a must-win match here Sunday against rejuvenated Sri Lanka to prevent losing a home triangular one-day cricket series for the first time in 13 years.

Australia's suicidal batting performance to hand Sri Lanka a stunning 22-run victory in the opening final in Adelaide on Friday puts skipper Ricky Ponting in a perilous situation in the second final at the Sydney Cricket Ground.

Ponting, the skipper of the first Australian team to lose the Ashes last year to England in 18 years, could also become the first home captain to lose a tri-series finals since Allan Border lost out to Richie Richardson's West Indians in 1993.

## Jr Tigers crash out

#### ICC U/19 CRICKET WORLD CUP SRI LANKA 2006

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh's maiden venture in the Cup phase of the ICC Under-19 World Cup turned into a nightmare when the junior Tigers suffered a five-wicket defeat against England at the P. Saravananthi Stadium in Colombo yesterday.

The defeat in the quarterfinals was a bolt from the blue for Bangladesh after a dream group league campaign that saw Mashfiqur Rahim's boys winning all their three games including a four-wicket defeat on holders Pakistan.

But on Saturday Bangladesh youths did not recover from yet another top-order batting collapse against an English side that was a favourite punch-bag when it toured Bangladesh three months back. Bangladesh youth team defeated almost the same side thrice at home on their way to win the triangular tournament that also involved Sri Lanka.

Lanka.

While the England side learned from demoralising defeats, there was however no improvement in the so-called 'vaunted' Bangladesh top-order that wilted in two crucial previous games against New Zealand and Pakistan.

Mashfiqur was the top scorer with 50-ball 27 while Shamsur Rahman added 22 off 68 deliveries.

Steven Mullaney was the leading English wicket-taker with 3-26 while Graeme White was most economical conceding 11 runs in his ten overs. Bangladesh tried something different to defend the small total with spinners operating with the new-ball but Varun Chopra led from the front to dash their hopes as England rode on his 11-ball 40 to reach the target of 156-5 in 43.3 overs.

One down Mark Nelson was the other notable scorer with 32 off just 24 balls. Mehrab Hossain claimed two wickets for 33 while Sohrabadi SEE PAGE 13 COL 4

#### Andy Roberts

(Former West Indies fast bowler)

"Don't ask me much about West Indies cricket. When it comes to West Indies cricket and the way the directors have destroyed everything I don't know. To be honest, I really don't know..."

While giving his opinion on the current West Indies Cricket Board.

SEE PAGE 13 COL 5

## Happy time for Barisal

Rajshahi also win; Khulna stare at defeat

#### ESPN

##### Australia vs Sri Lanka

VB Series Second Final

Live at 8:15 am

English Premier Football League

Sunderland vs Tottenham Hotspur

Live at 7:25 pm

Man City vs Charlton Athletic

Live at 9:55 pm

STAR Sports

Football Extra

Live at 9:00 am

#### SPORTS REPORTER

The fourth round turned out to be a successful one for Barisal as the hosts pulled off a nine-wicket victory against Sylhet on the third day of their four-day match in the Ispahani Seventh National Cricket League yesterday.

Barisal tasted their first victory both in one-day and four-day matches in this round as they handed a massive 109-run defeat on the same opponents at the Barisal Divisional Stadium in the shorter-version game on Wednesday.

It was also a double delight for Rajshahi after their innings and 28 runs success against Chittagong following their 15-run victory against the port city side in the limited-overs game at the Rajshahi Divisional Stadium.

At the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium Anwar Hossain smashed 145 and Uttam Kumar added 93 in the second innings as leaders

#### ISPAPANI MIRZAPORE TEA 7th National Cricket League

##### SPORTS REPORTER

An unbeaten 150-run second wicket partnership between Hannan Sarker and Nasiruddin Faruque powered Barisal to record their first win in the longer-version game.

Sylhet, who were all out for 193 in the first innings in reply to Barisal's 201, set a paltry winning

target of 154 after being bundled out for 160 in their second essay. New ball bowler Sajid Hasan wreaked havoc picking up four wickets for 47 runs.

Hannan hit 128-ball 72 and Faruque contributed 107-ball 64 as Barisal raced to 156-1 in 41.2 overs.

With the outcome they increased their tally to eight points.

RAJSHABI-CHITTAGONG Out-of-favour medium-pacer Mashfiqur Rahim returned a match haul of eight wickets as Rajshahi registered their second outright victory in four matches.

The right-arm pacer claimed five wickets for 56 runs to wrap up the Chittagong second innings for 141.

Ehsanul Haque continued his good form making 55 off 74 balls after hitting 94 in the first innings.

Earlier Rajshahi amassed 385 runs in their first essay in reply to Chittagong's 216.

DHAKA-KHULNA Wicketkeeper Anwar Hossain and Uttam Kumar shared a 205-run

SEE PAGE 13 COL 4

ANWAR... 145

Dhaka were on course to score a straight win against Khulna.

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ANWAR... 145



Dashing Indian batsman Yuvraj Singh pulls one for four in the second ODI against Pakistan at the Pindi Cricket Stadium on Saturday.

## Yuvraj puts India level with hosts

#### Cricket

AFP, Rawalpindi

Dashing left-hander Yuvraj Singh smashed an impressive unbeaten 82 to help India beat Pakistan by seven wickets in the second one-day international here on Saturday.

Yuvraj built on Virender Sehwag's rapid 68-ball 67 and captain Rahul Dravid's 56 as the tourists chased a target of 266 with ease in just 43 overs at the Pindi cricket stadium.

With the crushing win the tourists levelled the five-match series 1-1 after losing the first match at Peshawar by seven runs after special bad light rules came into play.

India's run-chase on a slow paced pitch was never in doubt after Sehwag and Sachin Tendulkar (42) gave the visitors a stunning start, scoring 105 runs by the 16th over.

Pakistan, missing their leading quick bowler Shoaib Akhtar for a second match in a row due to an ankle injury, failed to get the early

breakthrough as Sehwag hit 10 fours and one six to put India firmly in control.

Tendulkar, who initially played second fiddle to Sehwag, hit eight boundaries before edging pacer Abdul Razzaq to wicketkeeper Kamran Akmal.

Sehwag was eventually run out after a direct hit on the stumps as he attempted a third run.

Dravid and Yuvraj batted solidly and took their team to within 25 runs of the target with a stand of 118 for the third wicket, before the captain gave a return catch to Shoaib Malik after hitting five boundaries.

Yuvraj hit eight fours and two sixes during his 89-ball knock.

Dravid said Pakistan captain Inzamamul Haq's decision to bat first on a slowpitch was significant.

"We put up a team effort and everyone gave a good account of himself as we bowled well and batted well," he said.

"We were stumped at Inzamam's decision to bat first. We had fielded first here because we are good at chasing and

SEE PAGE 13 COL 6

REUTERS, Cairo



Hosts Egypt won the African Nations Cup for a record fifth time when they beat Ivory Coast 4-2 on penalties in the final on Friday.

Ivorian captain

Didier Drogba missed the Elephants' first spot kick when his effort was saved by Essam El Hadari as Egypt won the shootout follow-

ing a goalless draw after extra time.

El Hadari was the hero of the night for the Egyptians when he also saved Ivory Coast's third spot kick by Bakary Koné.

Drogba ended the match in tears, having missed a golden chance to win the game in the 79th minute when he fired over from close range before having his shootout penalty saved.

Egypt triumphed after having a 'goal' disallowed for offside and missing a penalty -- the award of

which was described as scandalous by Ivory Coast coach Henri Michel.

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