



## Did U Know?

England's John Briggs in his 25th Test became the first bowler to reach the landmark of 100 wickets.



**Shahriar Nafees**  
(Bangladesh cricket vice-captain)  
"For me the ultimate (challenge) is Test cricket but there are no Test matches in 14 months for Bangladesh, which is very unfortunate for Bangladesh cricket as well as its cricketers."

## What to WATCH

**ESPN**  
Australia v England  
Third Ashes Test, Day Four  
Live at 8:15 am  
FIFA Club World Cup Final  
Internacional v Barcelona  
Live at 4:00 pm  
English Premier Football League  
Everton v Chelsea  
Live at 7:40 pm  
West Ham v Manchester United  
Live at 9:55 pm  
**STAR Sports**  
South Africa v India  
First Test, Day Three  
Live at 2:30 pm  
English Premier Football League  
Man City v Tottenham  
Live at 10:00 pm  
New Zealand v Sri Lanka  
Second Test, Day Four  
Live at 3:30 am (Monday)

**Duncan**  
hoping  
against hope!

BBC ONLINE, undated

Coach Duncan Fletcher is still hoping that England can attain the mammoth 557 needed to win the third Ashes Test.

Australia have set England the task of achieving the highest-ever run chase but Fletcher feels his side can reach the total and keep the Ashes alive.

"It's an incredible challenge that we have to undertake," he said.

"But at the end of the day sometimes you're there to make some history -- the first four batters have got to bat well and see how it goes from there."

Australia took control of the third Test on Day Three -- Adam Gilchrist leading the way with the second fastest Test century -- but Fletcher said he was not unhappy with England's performance.

"I thought the bowlers bowled very well in the first two sessions," he said.

"But then you get a guy like Gilchrist who comes out and just takes it away from you."

"The game got difficult for us in that last session when Gilchrist went out and batted magnificently."

Even though England are staring at a third straight Ashes defeat, Fletcher backed captain Andrew Flintoff to rally his side.

"It might be better for English cricket in the long term if we were thumped 5-0."

"It's difficult at any time captaining an international side in a situation like this," said the England coach.

"It's very difficult for him but he's still up for it. He's still got a smile on his face."

"We realised that at times it could be pretty tough out here and you accept that when you take the job as captain of England."

## Tigers eye winning end



**SPORTS REPORTER**

Fresh from a six-wicket rout of Scotland, Bangladesh go into the second and final one-day match today in a bid to finish this year in style at the Mirpur Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium.

The 33-year-old Bangladesh captain showered praise on his deputy Shahriar Nafees and leading paceman Mashrafee Bin Mortaza, both achieving milestones during the first match against Scotland, to

eight games against Zimbabwe, seven against Kenya besides the last one against ICC associate member Scotland.

"I was really delighted when match referee Mike Procter expressed his joy over Bangladesh's recent success after the first match and he said that he will not be surprised if we pull off

set a standard in the team.

The 'Narail Express' is now just three wickets shy from a haul of 50 wickets in a calendar year.

"I think Nafees is a poster of Bangladesh cricket in the international arena. It was not a joke to score one thousand runs in a calendar year with three hundreds and the way he batted simply was exem-

plary. On the other hand Mashrafee delighted the country after becoming the highest wicket-taker of the world in this year," he observed.

"I was really delighted when match referee Mike Procter expressed his joy over Bangladesh's recent success after the first match and he said that he will not be surprised if we pull off

anything special in next year's World Cup. I think it was a great compliment from the South African legend," informed Bashar.

He said that his boys were hungry to do something even against a team like Scotland that impressed him most in recent time.

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## Javed back in business



**SPORTS REPORTER**

Forgotten man Javed Omar turned back the clock as he scored a hundred to put Bangladesh A on top on the second day of the four-day match against visiting Zimbabwe A at the Fatullah Stadium yesterday.

At stumps, the hosts were just five runs away from the tourists' total of 293 all out, scoring 288 for 3 in 78 overs.

Javed, who was dropped from the one-day national fold last September, remained unbeaten on 133 runs off 228 balls, hitting 21 boundaries. He was well supported by his opening partner Jahurul Islam (59) and Marshall Ayub (53 not out) as Bangladesh A dominated the match.

**BANGLADESH A:** First Innings: 288 for three in 78 overs (Javed 133 not out, Jahurul 59, Rajin 10, Tushar 7, Marshall 53 not out; Mpofu 1-50, Garwe 1-72, Chigumbura 1-27)

in only 9 overs, being all out for 291 runs in 96.3 overs. Paceman Mohammad Shahjada was the wrecker-in-chief, taking five for 45 while fellow seamer Mohammad Sharif took the final wicket of Chris Mpofu.

Tourists skipper Stuart Matsikenyeri added five runs to his overnight score of 68 before falling to Sharif who took three wickets.

### BRIEF SCORES

**ZIMBABWE A:** First Innings: 291 all out in 96.3 overs (Mawoyo 16, Hove 23, Chibhaba 36, Williams 82, Matsikenyeri 73, Chigumbura 39, Dabengwa 3, Higgins 4, Garwe 1 not out, Cremer 0, Mpofu 0; Shahjada 5-45, Enamul 2-100, Sharif 3-43)

**BANGLADESH A:** First Innings: 288 for three in 78 overs (Javed 133 not out, Jahurul 59, Rajin 10, Tushar 7, Marshall 53 not out; Mpofu 1-50, Garwe 1-72, Chigumbura 1-27)

## Victory Day match held

**SPORTS REPORTER**

Mahmudullah Riyad of Shaheed Mushtaque XI played a captain's innings, propelling his side to a three-wicket win over Shaheed Jewel XI in the Victory Day exhibition match here at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium yesterday.

Right-handed batsman Riyad struck 66 runs and took his side out of a rut while they chased 188 runs set by Shaheed Jewel XI who chose to bat first. Riyad's side reached the target in 33.5 overs, losing seven wickets.

Suharwardi Shuvu who scored 30 while wicketkeeper-batsman Dhaman Ghosh chipped in with 25 aided him.

But it was tail-enders Ishraq Sonnet and Mosharraf Hossain who managed to take their side through, sharing a 15-run stand in the end. The match drew little crowd even though it was a holiday but lack of star players, most of whom were busy, contributed to the low turn-out at the Dhanmondi ground.

Earlier, Shaheed Jewel XI rode

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## Inzamam to stay skipper

**PTI, Karachi**

Inzamamul Haq was expected to be retained as captain when the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) Ad-Hoc committee meets tomorrow to announce the captain, manager and a media manager for the tour as well as the World Cup.

Sources said the committee was expected to repose faith in Inzamam although they were question marks about his fitness and form in the home series against the West Indies.

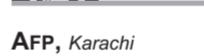
"The PCB is very clear that if he is playing in the team than he has to be the captain. It is as simple as that," one official said.

However they are question marks on who will be named manager as sources said Talat Ali who went to the Champions Trophy might be replaced by a new face.



ONLY THREE MORE: Bangladesh paceman Mashrafee-Bin Mortaza (L) shares a light moment with fellow seamer Syed Rasel during a training session at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur on Saturday.

## Pakistan win in style



**AFP, Karachi**

before falling leg-before to Dave Mohammed when the win was just 15 runs away.

Pakistan captain Inzamamul Haq was delighted with the series win.

"The credit goes to the players and they did very well to help us achieve the series win. It would help boost our confidence ahead of the South Africa tour and the World Cup next year," said Inzamam.

West Indian captain Brian Lara praised his young team for their good performance over the past three months.

Pakistan were boosted by the return of Inzamam, Mohammad Younis, Umar Gul and Abdul Rehman as they made four changes from their line-up for the fourth match. The tourists brought in paceman Collymore in place of Ian Bradshaw.

The West Indies won the fourth match of the series by seven wickets. The first match was cancelled due to rain.

### SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the fifth and final one-day international between Pakistan and the West Indies at the National Stadium in Karachi on Saturday:

#### WEST INDIES

Gayle lbw b Naved	7
Chanderpaul c Hameed b Naved	101
Simmons b Sami	21
Samuels st Akmal b Rehman	22
Lara b Naved	44
Ramdin c b Rehman	3
Morton not out	14

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INDIAN HEROES: Comeback man Sourav Ganguly (L) shapes to play a shot during his fighting 51 not out in the first innings while fast bowler S Sreesanth celebrates his wicket of South African batsman Jacques Kallis during the second day of the first Test at the Wanderers in Johannesburg on Saturday.

## Sreesanth fells Proteas

### Sourav shines on return



**AFP, Johannesburg**

Indian opening bowler Shanthakumaran Sreesanth claimed his first Test five-wicket haul as South Africa crashed to 84 all out on the second day of the first Test at the Wanderers Stadium Saturday.

It was a dramatic change of fortune after South Africa had appeared on target to take control of the match on a pitch which offered bounce and some movement to the fast bowlers.

But the Indians used the conditions better as they sent the home

team and swing bowling.

Sreesanth, playing in his sixth Test, at one stage had five for 19 after dismissing five of the first seven batsmen.

It was the lowest total made by South Africa in any Test since the country was re-admitted to the International Cricket Council in 1991.

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Whereas the South Africans peppered the Indian batsmen with short-pitched bowling, Sreesanth and new ball partner Zaheer Khan bowled a fuller length and made the batsmen play at more deliveries.

South Africa's first three wickets fell with the total on five.

Captain Graeme Smith was out leg before to Sreesanth for five and Herschelle Gibbs was out

without scoring in the next over when he edged a drive off Khan to

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## World Cup safe from malaria in Jamaica

**AFP, Kingston**

A senior officer in the Jamaican ministry of health said the Jamaican leg of the ICC World Cup Cricket would not be affected by the malaria outbreak in the Caribbean island.

Dr Marion Bullock-Ducasse, of the Ministry of Health, told the Jamaica Observer newspaper, "In terms of the control measures that we have outlined, we do anticipate that the situation will be controlled long before that."

Dr Bullock-Ducasse also chairs

the International Cricket Council

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PHOTO: STAR  
Malaysian high commissioner HA Dato Abdul Malek Bin Abdul Aziz (3rd from right) releases balloons to inaugurate the AKTEL Victory Day Golf Tournament at the Bhatiari Golf Club in Chittagong on Saturday.