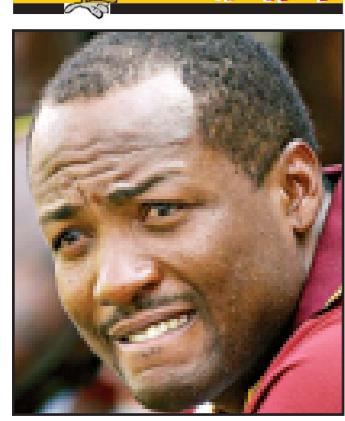




## Did U Know?

Makhaya Ntini of South Africa took 6 for 59 in the first innings of the second Test against Pakistan in Port Elizabeth on January 21. It took his aggregate to 301 wickets, and he became the twenty-first player, and third from South Africa to exceed 300 wickets.



**Brian Lara**  
(West Indies cricket captain)  
"He's a player of high class and you expect performances like that from him."

After Sourav Ganguly scored a match-winning 98 in his comeback ODI on Sunday.



**ESPN**  
Commonwealth Bank Series  
New Zealand v England  
Sixth ODI  
Live at 9:15 am  
Sportscenter India  
Live at 9:30 pm

**STAR Sports**  
Australian Open  
Men's/Women's Quarterfinals  
Live at 6:00 am



Premier Division Cricket League  
Mohammedan v Young Pegasus  
Venue: Fatullah Cricket Stadium  
Biman v Partex  
Venue: BKSP

Sonargaon Cricketers v Victoria  
Sporting  
Venue: Sher-e-Bangla National  
Stadium

ENG MEET NZ TODAY  
**Bopara's turn now**

BBC ONLINE, undated

England may be tempted to make changes for their one-dayer against New Zealand on Tuesday, with Ravi Bopara and Monty Panesar set to come into contention.

Having beaten the Black Caps in Hobart, victory could go a long way to sealing England's place in the series final.

And Panesar could be recalled given the traditional impact of spinners at the Adelaide Oval, while Bopara may debut at the expense of out-of-form Ed Joyce.

New Zealand will be without pace bowler Shane Bond who has a bad problem.

However, Jacob Oram is in contention after shaking off the hamstring problem that kept him out of Sunday's narrow defeat to Australia.

And seamer Kyle Mills, who has been sidelined by a knee problem, has also joined the squad in Australia and could play in what he describes as a "crucial" game.

"It's a pretty crucial game for us, if we can win we'll be back on level terms with England and then have four games to go," he said.

"There's still fair bit of the series to go but this one is very important for us for the rest of it."

Meanwhile, wicketkeeper Paul Nixon says he is happy in his role as one of the team's elder statesmen, saying: "Throughout time, we are all custodians of the game and

SEE PAGE 18 COL 5

## Abahani cross DOHS hurdle

**SPORTS REPORTER**



Stand-in skipper Tushar Imran led the team from the front as a depleted Abahani kept their winning record intact in the Kai-Altech Premier Cricket League when the title contenders overcame the Old DOHS hurdle with a 34-run victory at the Fatullah Cricket Stadium yesterday.

The in-and-out Tigers batsman hit a well-composed 77 as Abahani, missing three key players for the third consecutive game, put up a challenging total of 262-8 on a placid track. Inspired by his second fifty in the league, the part-time off-spinner then sparked in a crucial stage to wrap up the DOHS innings for 228 in 46 overs.

While the Dhamondi outfit, making a bid to bring the pride back after a few seasons in the wilderness, marched on with their fifth win in a row, new powerhouse DOHS suffered a big blow on way to a hattrick title. It was their second consecutive defeat after a shocking four-wicket loss to Kalabagan at the same venue.

Man-of-the-match Tushar, in charge since skipper Khaled Mashud's injury, made the difference in the vital game as he served

best when it was needed most.

The right-hander came to the wicket with his team struggling on 38-2 in the 12th over after his counterpart Akram Khan surprisingly invited them to bat first. He shouldered the responsibility immediately to set a platform for a defendable total.

Rather than going for big shots, the natural stroke-maker concentrated on singles to rotate the strike with partner Nazimuddin for the third wicket partnership. The 84-run stand, Abahani's best, was broken when Shamsur Rahman took a sharp catch at extra cover of left-arm spinner Mehrab Hossain to send back Nazimuddin, who contributed 61-ball 40 that featured two fours and as many sixes.

During his 101-ball knock, Tushar struck five fours and two sixes while Pakistani import Imran Abbas contributed a 54-ball 42 before Mashrafee-bin-Mortuza (26 off 15 balls) and Sohrawardi Shuvo (23 off 12 balls) provided the fireworks make up for a slow start.

In the second session, Tushar gave the vital breakthrough dismissing bright prospect Nadif Chowdhury (35off 42 balls), who along with Akram associated in a 63-run fifth wicket stand to revive the DOHS hopes. Nadif suddenly lost cool and flicked Tushar to

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