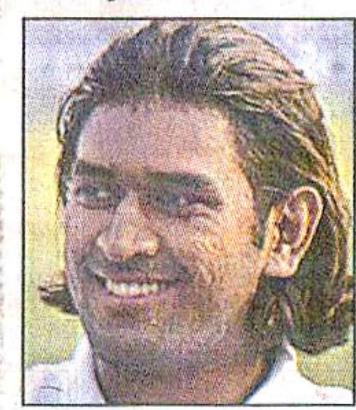




## Did U Know?

The very first postage stamp depicting a chess motif was issued in Bulgaria in 1947.



**Mahendra Singh Dhoni**  
(India's one-day captain)  
"It (victory) means a lot. We wanted to prove that the victory (in the World Twenty20 Championship in South Africa) was not a fluke."

After winning the one-off Twenty20 international against Australia on Saturday.



**BTV**  
National Cricket League  
Dhaka v Khulna  
Live from 9:30am  
**TEN Sports**  
Pakistan v South Africa  
Third ODI  
Live from 12:00pm  
UEFA Champions League  
Dynamo Kiev v Man United  
Live from 12:00am (Wednesday)

**ESPN**  
Sportscenter India  
Sports News



National Cricket League  
(First Round, One-Day)  
Dhaka v Khulna  
Venue: Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium, Dhaka  
Barisal v Chittagong  
Venue: Shaheed Chandu Stadium, Bogra  
Rajshahi v Sylhet  
Venue: Rajshahi Divisional Stadium

## 11th SA Games in Dec 2009?

**SPORTS REPORTER**

The Bangladesh Olympic Association (BOA) is contemplating to put back the 11th SA (South Asian) Games further after the event already suffered one deferral.

The Games were originally scheduled for December 2008 in Dhaka but the organisers had settled for January 2009 date recently.

BOA's acting secretary general Kutubuddin Ahmed yesterday informed that they are thinking to host the Games in December 2009, one year behind the initial schedule.

He said that it was only in the planning.

"The country will go through busy time in that period," Kutub told referring to the general elections and political activities. "So we want to hold it in the latter part of 2009."

The BOA will submit the proposal at SA Games' member countries' meeting in December, which has been deferred from November on request from Pakistan due to their involvement in the Islamic Solidarity Games, informed Kutub, also the secretary of the 11th SA Games working committee.

The fate of the Games as well as the disciplines to be held would be finalised in the meeting.

It can be noted that financial crisis of the government could also be a reason behind BOA's plans to defer the eight-nation event.

Sports Adviser Tapan Chowdhury last month mentioned about financial crisis of the government, which showed its worries over the huge Tk 89-crore budget for the Games.

**SPORTS REPORTER**

The 18-member Bangladesh football team will leave Dhaka tomorrow afternoon for Bangkok en route to Dushanbe to play their second leg match of the 2010 World Cup pre-qualifiers against Tajikistan.

Syed Nayeemuddin's boys will start directly from their residential camp at BKSP to board a Thai Airways flight at 1:30pm at the Zia International Airport.

The team will fly to Uzbekistan from the Thailand capital for a stopover at Tashkent, informed Bangladesh Football Federation

last month mentioned about financial crisis of the government, which showed its worries over the huge Tk 89-crore budget for the Games.

**SPORTS REPORTER**

The opening round match of the 9th National Cricket League between heavyweights Khulna and Dhaka ended in a draw yesterday but there was no shortage of excitement on the final day of the four-day at the Mirpur Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium.

Brilliant batsmanship of Dhaka skipper Mohammad Ashraful was the highlight of the day as the prolific right-hander's 85-run knock not only salvaged a draw for the home side but also had raised hopes of winning the game at one stage under difficult conditions -- the ball kept low while the outfield was slow.

Left-handed batsman Mehrab Hossain also deserved some credit as the number five kept cool during his unbeaten 184-ball 62, as Dhaka -- needing 224 runs on the day after resuming on 72-2 -- scored 284 for eight while chasing a winning target of 314.

While Ashraful expressed his satisfaction over the outcome, his counterpart Habibul Bashar was

disappointed because of some missed opportunities despite the fact that his side secured eleven points against the hosts' four bonus points.

"I am specially happy because the way both the teams fought in the match. It was not easy to make runs on this kind of surface," said national skipper Ashraful.

"I think we were deprived of an outright victory because of our poor fielding as we slipped as many as four vital catches," said Bashar.

Overnight three, Ashraful gave two early chances. But Syed Rasel dropped a sitter at mid-off to Mashrafe Bin Mortaza. Ashraful never looked back on way to execute a well-composed knock.

A victory looked on sight when he paired with Mehrab for the fourth wicket in front of a lively crowd after overnight batsman Javed Omar was caught behind off the bowling of Shakib Al Hasan for 45.

However, leading paceman Mashrafe broke the 76-run stand in his very first over after lunch to shatter Dhaka's hopes.

Ashraful, who smashed four boundaries and two mid-wicket sixes against left-arm spinner Abdur Razzak during his 152-ball target of 314.

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