

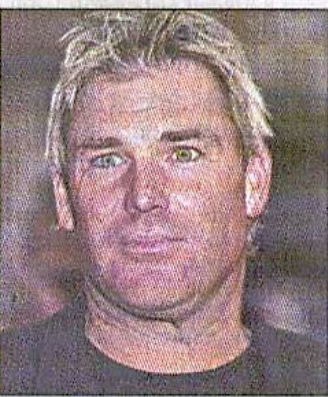
LIPRO
Presents
HIMOINSA
DIESEL GENERATORS
FROM SPAIN
Lipro Energy Ltd.
Cell: 8817147, 8817716, 8818062

More Than Just A Job Site
চাকরি
chakri.com.bd
A Platform for Employers and Job Seekers, to Meet and Exchange Information.
SignUp Now!!
www.chakri.com.bd



Did U Know?

Former world number one Martina Hingis of Switzerland started playing tennis at age of two and entered tournaments at the age of four. From this early start, Hingis turned pro at fourteen finishing the year with a world ranking of 87 in 1994.



Shane Warne
(Australian spin legend)
"I congratulate Murali for breaking the record I had."
After Sri Lanka's Muttiah Muralidaran became the highest wicket-taker in Test cricket on Monday.



TEN Sports
Sri Lanka v England
First Test, Day Five
Live from 11:00am
ESPN
Sportscentre India
Sports News
Live at 8:30pm



Nat'l Cricket League
(Round Seven, Day One)
Dhaka v Sylhet
Venue: Fatullah Cricket Stadium
Barisal v Rajshahi
Venue: Shaheed Chandu Stadium, Bogra
Chittagong v Khulna
Venue: Khulna Divisional Stadium

Pakistan call up Rauf for final Test

REUTERS, Kolkata

Pakistan have called up uncapped fast bowler Abdur Rauf for the final Test against India, a team official said on Tuesday.

Rauf, 28, will replace second wicketkeeper Sarfraz Ahmed in the 15-man squad to reinforce the pace attack after Umar Gul missed both previous Tests with back trouble and returned home.

All-rounder Yasir Arafat was flown in as replacement for Gul.

Pakistan, hit by illness, drew the second Test in Kolkata on Tuesday after the hosts won the opening game in New Delhi by six wickets.

The third and final Test in Bangalore starts on Saturday.

BCCI backs down, Dilip can continue

PTI, New Delhi

In a sudden turn of events, the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) on Tuesday climbed down in its standoff with chief selector Dilip Vengsarkar, saying it would go into his "legitimate" demands for compensation for not writing columns.

In an apparent bid to effect a truce, BCCI president Sharad Pawar said he wanted Vengsarkar, who had demanded relaxation of the stiff guidelines that barred selectors from writing columns or

'Conditions tough, but helpful'



SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh batsmen on Tuesday got a little idea about what is exactly coming at them in New Zealand.

Mohammad Ashraf's men found it hard to cope even against net bowlers during match simulation at the Mirpur Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium yesterday.

The reason was simple as the bowlers, especially Chittagong Nazim, carried the ball brilliantly and penetrated the national batsmen most on a very lively pitch that is prepared on the demands of new national coach Jamie Siddons.

The system to cut down the length of the pitch to give the batsmen some idea of the pacy conditions in New Zealand worked out well and interestingly, only Abdur Razzaq looked comfortable during his 42-run knock.

Understandably the Tigers pace bowlers enjoyed the conditions as well, despite the fact that they were not allowed the advantage of shorter length of the pitch.

And pace spearhead Mashrafe Bin Mortaza issued a warning that the conditions would be tougher than the replicated one that is prepared at home.

"It would be much, much tougher in New Zealand than the batsmen are facing here. You know, the breeze plays a vital role in favour of the seam bowlers, which is not the case here. And another thing is that we are getting even bounce here but it would not be the same in New Zealand," said the Bangladesh vice-captain who visited the country during the Tigers' first visit in 2001.

"But I am really excited with the behaviour of the practice pitches because I hardly have seen such a good wicket in Bangladesh. Unfortunately we could not play in this kind of surface in the National Cricket League," he added.

His new-ball partner Shahadat Hossain echoed his senior's sentiment.

"It's fantastic to bowl here. Any fast bowler would love to bowl in such a condition that has bounce and movement. But it was difficult for the batsmen, though ultimately they will benefit from playing here," said the lanky paceman who missed most of the NCL matches due to fever.

Siddons definitely would have loved to see his batsmen immediately take the upper hands against the fast men, as the batting is his side's main headache.

NZ, Tigers' Sidr fundraiser in Hamilton

AFP, Wellington

Bangladesh and a New Zealand team will play a Twenty20 match this month to raise funds for victims of November's deadly cyclone.

Cricket New Zealand said Tuesday the match will be played in Hamilton on December 23 at the start of Bangladesh's tour of New Zealand.

Cyclone Sidr smashed into the southern coastal districts of the delta nation on November 15, killing at least 3,200 people and leaving millions homeless or short of basic staples such as rice.

"With the Bangladesh cricket team touring New Zealand in December and January we felt it is appropriate and the right thing to do to assist the relief efforts in their country," Cricket New Zealand chief executive Justin Vaughan said.

The New Zealand XI will be captained by Stephen Fleming, who was replaced earlier this year as captain of the national team by Daniel Vettori.

An invitational Masters team will also play the New Zealand under-19 side in another Twenty20 game before the main match as part of the fundraising.

Bangladesh will play three one-day internationals and two Tests during their tour of New Zealand.

Stand-in captain stands up

Kolkata Test ends in a draw



AFP, Kolkata

Stand-in captain Younis Khan staved off a spin threat with a responsible century to help Pakistan draw the second Test against India here on Tuesday.

Younis scored an unbeaten 107 under pressure as Pakistan recovered from 78-4 to finish at 214-4 in their second innings chasing a stiff 345-run target off 81 overs on the fifth and final day.

Mohammad Yousuf played the supporting role and was unbeaten on 44 when the game was called off with four overs remaining.

Pakistan, trailing 1-0, now have a chance to square the three-Test series when they clash with India in the third match at Bangalore starting Sunday.

Younis, 29, reached his 15th Test century - fifth against India - in the closing session when he reverse-swept off-spinner Harbhajan Singh for a 13th four.

"The team needed someone to stay at the crease for a long period and I am happy that I scored runs when the side needed them most," said Younis.

"We were in trouble after the first two days because India had scored more than 600 runs in their first innings, but I'd praise century-makers Kamran Akmal and Misbahul Haq for their tremen-

dous innings."

Indian spinners Anil Kumble (2-73) and Harbhajan made the batsmen struggle for runs on a slow turning track, keeping a tidy line and length with four men in catch-

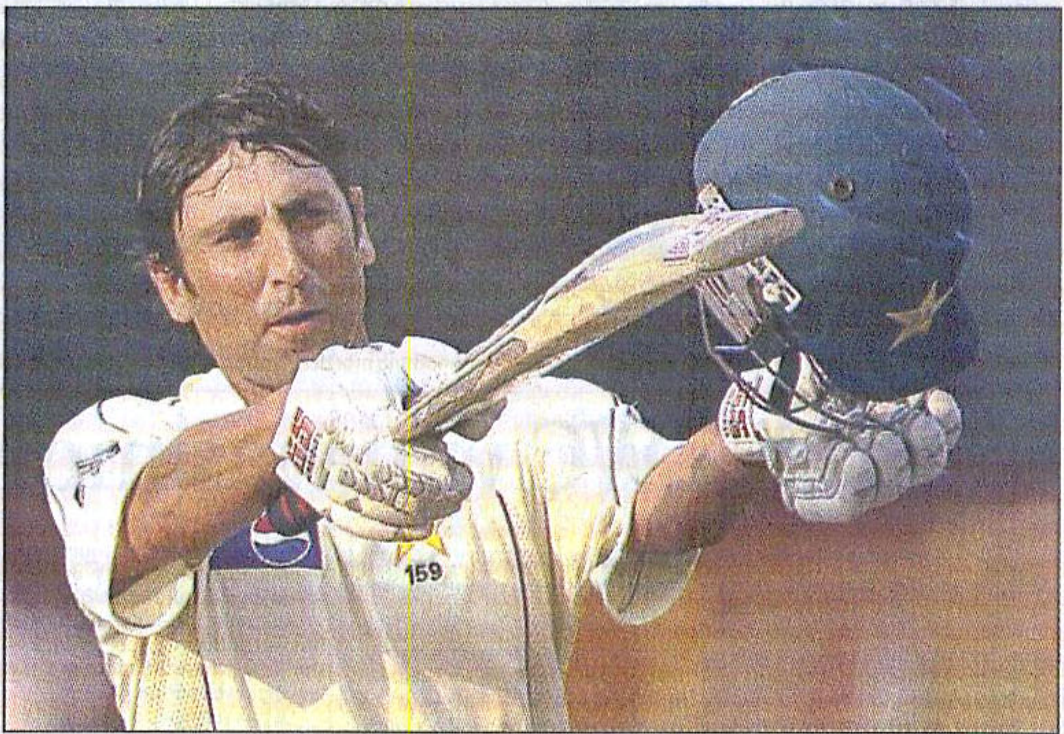
ing positions close to the bat.

Pakistan were in trouble midway through the afternoon session when they lost four wickets for 78 in 40 overs, but Younis came to his team's rescue as he added 136 for

the unfinished fifth-wicket stand with Yousuf.

Younis, leading the side in the absence of unfit Shoaib Malik, never allowed the Indian spinners

SEE PAGE 18 COL 6



SAVING GRACE: Pakistan captain Younis Khan salutes the crowd upon reaching a century during the last day of the second Test against India at the Eden Gardens in Kolkata on Tuesday.

Sri Lanka in command

Sangakkara's unique feat



AFP, Kandy

Kumar Sangakkara became the first batsman to hit 150-plus scores in four consecutive Tests as Sri Lanka pressed for victory in the first Test against England on Tuesday.

The left-hander made 152 as Sri Lanka piled up 442-8 in their second innings when they declared 30 minutes before stumps on the fourth day to leave England an imposing victory target of 350.

England closed the day on 9-1, losing Alastair Cook to the fourth ball of the innings from Chaminda Vaas, who forced an edge to Chamara Silva at first slip.

Skipper Michael Vaughan was unbeaten on one and nightwatchman James Anderson was on four as England return on the final day to attempt a history-defying win against world number one Muttiah Muralidaran.

The highest fourth innings total achieved at the Asgiriya Stadium to win a Test was 264-3 by India in 2001.

Vaughan's men can, however, take heart from their previous visit to Kandy in 2003 when the tourists, set a target of 368, ended with 285-7 to draw the match.

Sangakkara followed his 92 in the first innings with a brilliant century containing 19 fours before he was caught at mid-on by Vaughan off part-time seamer Paul Collingwood.

Sangakkara's 16th Test century - the sixth in his last 10 innings - made him only the ninth batsman in history to score a hundred against all the other nine Test-playing nations.

But he was the first to achieve the rare feat of four 150-plus scores in as many Tests after making 200 not out and 222 not out against Bangladesh at home in July and 192 against Australia in Hobart last

month.

Australian legend Don Bradman, Wally Hammond of England and Mudassar Nazar of Pakistan did it in three successive Tests.

Of his 16 Test centuries, Sangakkara has crossed the 150-run mark 11 times.

But he almost did not get there on Tuesday as Ian Bell put first slip.

SEE PAGE 18 COL 2



RUNS FOLLOWING HIM: Sri Lanka batsman Kumar Sangakkara (L) acknowledges the dressing room as his batting partner Chamara Silva congratulates him during the fourth day of the first Test at the Asgiriya Stadium in Kandy on Tuesday.

C'WEALTH CHESS Reefat, Rakib win in 2nd round too

SPORTS REPORTER

Reefat Bin Sattar and his fellow Bangladeshi Grand Master Abdullah Al Rakib maintained their winning run in the second round of the Commonwealth Chess Championship in New Delhi, India.

While Reefat and Rakib collected maximum two points after two wins, country's first GM Niaz Murshed drew his board with Abhay after beginning the competition with a win.

In Monday's 2nd round, Rakib beat Mary Ann Gomes while Reefat defeated Krishnan Saravanan.

FIDE Master Khondokar Aminul Islam, and IWM Rani Hamid have one point each after Amin drew with Priya Mohana and Rani's loss to IM Vikramaditya Kamble.

Div I chess from Dec 12

UNB, Dhaka

The Metropolis First Division Chess League will begin in Dhaka on December 12 at the Bangladesh Chess Federation hall-room.

Sixteen teams will participate in the league. They are reigning champions Bangladesh Biman, runners-up Leonine Chess Club, Chittagong Mohammedan, Destiny 2000, Narayanganj City Chess Club, Titas Club, Sonali Bank, Dhaka University Chess Club, Muktiyoddha Sangsad, Mohakhali Pradip Sangha, Friends Chess Power, Farashganj, Faith Chess Club, Agragati Chess Club (Toyota Motors), Prime Life Insurance Company and Sultana Kamal Smriti Pathagar.

The teams have been requested to send their entry and the registration fees to the Bangladesh Chess Federation by December 9. The deadline for sending team lists is December 10.

Touchline ban for Manik

MSC-Abahani 2nd charity match today



SPORTS REPORTER

Be it exhibition or competitive, the tension seems to hang around an Abahani-Mohammedan clash.

It would be no different when the two archrivals take the field today for the second match of the Best of 3 Teletalk Series, organised by the Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) to raise fund for the victims of Cyclone Sidr.

After Monday's dramatic end of the first match both the sides will miss known faces when the match kicks off at 4.30pm at the Bangabandhu National Stadium.

Mohammedan, who lead the series 1-0 after winning 5-4 on penalties after a goalless draw in

the first encounter, will be without Hassan Al Mamun while Abahani miss Arif Khan Joy - both serving a one-match ban following their sent-off decisions. However, they will return for the third and final match on Friday.

Mohammedan coach Shafiqul Islam Manik has also been handed a touchline ban for today's match.

After an emergency meeting on Monday night, the disciplinary committee of the BFF has asked Manik not to enter the ground in the second match for 'hurting the spirit of the game'.

Manik, a former national footballer, led his side's refusal to play when referee Tayeb Hassan ignored an appeal for a goal.

The referee has also been show-caused for losing grip over the game in the injury time.

Abahani meanwhile, threatened yesterday they would consider not playing the rest of the matches if the federation did not take any steps against the guilty.

BFF officials confirmed last night they have received Abahani's letter and felt that both sides would not mind after the punishments served.

Both sides will make changes but Abahani will have to find a new captain in absence of Joy. Nazrul and Pradeep, who did not play the first match, are the two candidates to wear the sky-blues' armband.

The BFF meanwhile, was hoping to bank on the tension created around this match by selling more tickets as the response for the opening match was rather poor.

It was learned that only 7,000 tickets worth Tk 2,05,000 were sold for the first match.

Testing time for leaders

SPORTS REPORTER



Former national captain **Habibul Bashar** will lead a depleted Khulna side today when they take on hosts Chittagong in a seventh round match of the 9th National Cricket League.

Bashar is among the few stars playing in the four-day competition as the Tigers' training camp ahead of the New Zealand tour begun on Sunday with fifteen big names of the competition.

Devoid of all the big names, this is a chance for national one-day discards like Bashar, Shahriar Nafees, Mahmudullah Riyad and Tapash Baisya and a few of the lesser-known players to make some impact in a bid to force their way into the Tigers' Test side for the

two matches in New Zealand.

Dhaka take on Sylhet at the Fatullah Stadium while Rajshahi travel to Bogra to face Barisal in the other two four-day matches.

The likes of Aslam Khan, Sanjay Chakrobarty, Fariduddin Masud and Monirul Islam Taj will replace Khulna heavyweights Shakib Al Hasan, Tushtar Imran, Abdur Razzaq, Syed Rasel and the inspirational Mashrafe Bin Mortaza, who helped their divisional side reach the top of the table after six rounds.

Back from a shoulder injury that kept him away from the sixth round matches, Bashar will find it hard to break down a Chittagong side that have showed signs of coming back to form with a seven-wicket win over Barisal in the previous round.

Khulna, who have 72 points, drew their last round game with Dhaka at home and then were soundly beaten in the one-dayer by

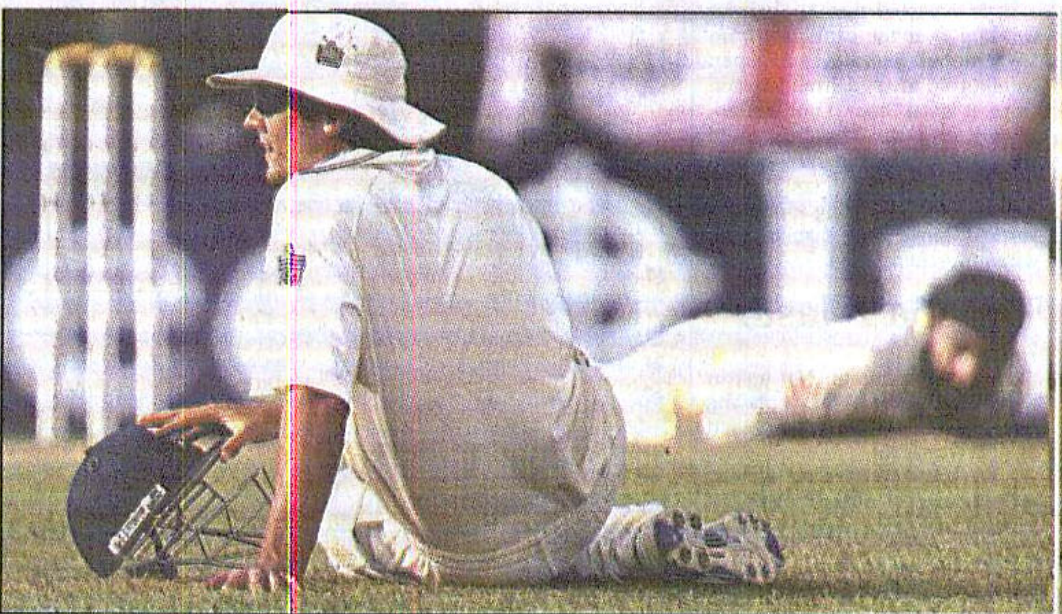
eight wickets. The visitors can bank on their opening batsmen Imrul Kayes and Nazmus Sadat to get a solid start but Bashar will have to do the bulk of running in the middle-order, missing Shakib and Tushtar.

Trailing by only five points, Rajshahi should seize this big opportunity to regain lead when they face Barisal.

Having lost their top spot in the fifth round when they crashed to Khulna by two wickets, Rajshahi have it in their own hands to get back on top against Barisal. The hosts, led by Shahriar Nafees, are fast on the decline with two successive losses to Chittagong and Khulna (by an innings and three runs).

At the Fatullah Stadium, Dhaka will look to make a clean sweep of Sylhet, whom they thrashed back

SEE PAGE 18 COL 5



NO, THEY'RE NOT ON A BEACH: Alastair Cook (L) and umpire Aleem Dar take cover as a swarm of bees pass the Asgiriya Stadium in Kandy during the fourth day's play of the first Test between Sri Lanka and England yesterday.

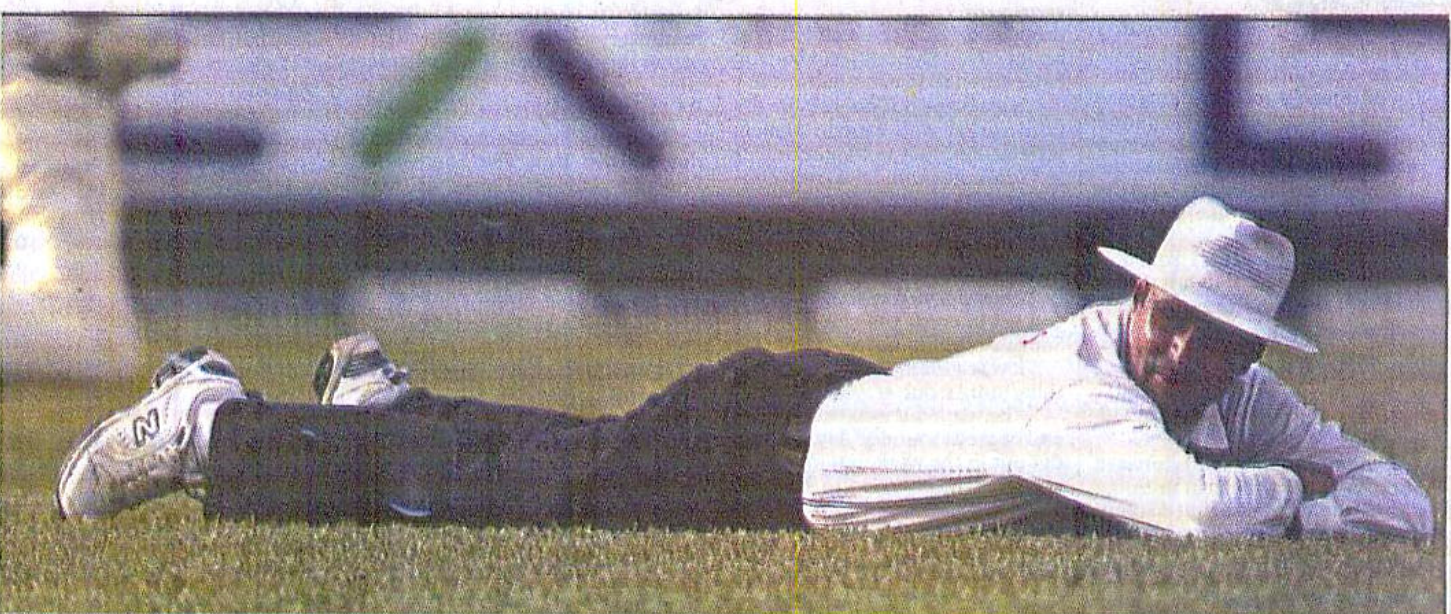


PHOTO: AFP