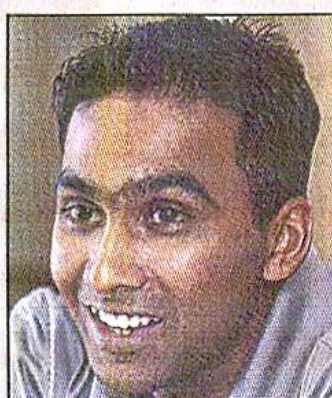




## Did U Know?

Venus Williams of the United States started playing tennis at age 4, and was coached mostly by her father Richard Williams. She turned pro at 14.



## Mahela Jayawardene

(Sri Lanka captain)  
"We're going to miss him, he's been a role model but he went on his own terms. I wish him all the very best, but we're still going to see him in one-day cricket."



## What to Watch

### DD National

India v Pakistan  
Third Test, Day Two  
Live from 10:00am

### TEN Sports

Sri Lanka v England  
Second Test, Day One  
Live from 10:30am

### ESPN

English Premier League  
Middlesbrough v Arsenal  
Live from 7:25pm

Blackburn Rovers v West Ham  
Live from 9:55pm

Primera Liga  
Barcelona v Deportivo  
Live from 1:55am (Monday)

### STAR Sports

English Premier League  
Tottenham v Man City  
Live from 8:55pm

### DAY'S EVENT

Nat'l Cricket League  
(Round Seven, One-Day)  
Dhaka v Sylhet

Venue: Fatullah Cricket Stadium  
Barisal v Rajshahi

Venue: Shaheed Chandu Stadium, Bogra  
Chittagong v Khulna

Venue: Khulna Divisional Stadium

### C'WEALTH CHESS

## Reefat, Amin

## win in 7th

## round

### SPORTS REPORTER

Grand Master Reefat Bin Sattar shared the third position with 15 other players after end of the 7th round of the Commonwealth Chess Championships in Delhi on Friday.

Fellow Bangladeshi GMs Abdullah Al Rakib and Niaz Murshed followed on five points while FIDE Master Khondokar Aminul Islam IWM Rani Hamid had 4.5 and three points respectively.

In the 7th round Reefat beat Dilip Das of India to raise his collection to 5.5 points.

The Bangladesh men were all playing against local opponents with Rakib losing to IM Himanshu Sharma, who maintained solo lead with 6.5 points.

Niaz drew with GM Abhijit Kunte, Amin beat Pritam Singh while Rani Hamid defeated Australia's Rebecca Harris.

# Yuvraj, Sourav sparkle

## Cricket

AFP, Bangalore

Yuvraj Singh and Sourav Ganguly hammered explosive centuries to lead India's fightback in the third and final Test against Pakistan here on Saturday.

Yuvraj celebrated his comeback with a career-best 169 and Ganguly scored a fluent unbeaten 125 as an injury-hit India recovered from a horror morning session to post 365-5 in their first innings at stumps on the opening day.

India were wobbling at 61-4 after winning the toss on a good batting track before left-handers Yuvraj and Ganguly restored their team's fortunes with a 300-run stand for the fifth wicket.

The partnership was the highest for the fifth wicket in Tests between the two countries, surpassing the previous best of 213 set by Pakistanis Zaheer Abbas and Mudassar Nazar at Karachi in 1982.

Debutant seamer Yasir Arafat jolted India with three important wickets in a tight seven-over open-

ing spell before his side ran into Yuvraj and Ganguly, who counter-attacked to steer their team to safety.

It was one-day specialist Yuvraj's third Test century -- all against Pakistan -- and Ganguly's 15th, including a second successive ton against the tourists following his 102 in the previous match.

Pakistan also suffered a stroke of misfortune when ace paceman Shoaib Akhtar walked off the field after bowling two overs in the afternoon. He was taken to a hospital for back pain.

Pakistan's team management said the fast bowler's condition would be assessed on Sunday morning before taking any decision.

Yuvraj and Ganguly demoralised the Pakistani attack in the last two sessions with a wide range of attacking shots all round the wicket.

The 25-year-old Yuvraj, named in the playing eleven following injuries to Sachin Tendulkar and Mahendra Singh Dhoni, made the most of the opportunity with a gem of an innings in his first Test in

more than a year.

India were also without pacemen Zaheer Khan and Munaf Patel, ruled out of the match due to fitness problems.

Yuvraj was the first to reach the hundred, punching Arafat through the covers for an 18th four. His 203-ball knock included a pulled six off leg-spinner Danish Kaneria and 28 fours.

Faisal Iqbal caught him off a leading edge at gully while trying to work paceman Mohammad Sami's delivery to the leg-side.

There was plenty to cheer about for nearly 20,000 spectators as Ganguly also drove and cut with authority against both pace and spin during his 214-ball knock containing 20 fours.

India plundered 127 runs in the afternoon session and 173 in the last after Arafat had raised Pakistan's hopes of restricting India with a triple-strike in the morning.

The 25-year-old Arafat, who joined the squad as a replacement for injured Umar Gul, removed Wasim Jaffer (17), Rahul Dravid

SEE PAGE 18 COL 2

# Nazim ton thwarts Khulna

## Rajshahi back on top

### SPORTS REPORTER

Chittagong batsman Nazimuddin kept Khulna at bay with an unbeaten century while Rajshahi ran away with a six-wicket win over Barisal to leapfrog Khulna at the top of the table at the end of the seventh round in the 9th National Cricket League held across the country yesterday.

Rajshahi raced to 148-4, their winning target set by a hapless Barisal on the final day of their four-day fixture at Shaheed Caudu Stadium in Bogra. This meant Rajshahi's move to the top spot with 80 points, equal with Khulna but with more wins under their belt.

Away at the Chittagong

Divisional Stadium, Chittagong declared their second innings at 229-9, to which Khulna replied with 188-5.

The other match of the day between Dhaka and Sylhet ended in a draw after the visitors declared at 306-8, effectively killing the chance of a result. Dhaka reached 188-7 in their second innings.

### CHITTAGONG-KHULNA

Precariously placed at 134-7,

Chittagong sunk even deeper when they lost Sajju Dutta and Yasir Arafat by the first hour on the final day.

But Nazimuddin had other ideas in mind. Overnight on 56 and with his side in huge trouble, the solid right-hander turned on the style, scoring 50 of the 64-run ninth wicket stand in only 70 balls, with Mohammad Younus.

Nazimuddin struck 6 sixes and

SEE PAGE 18 COL 2

POINTS TABLE (FOUR-DAY)									
TEAM	M	W	L	D	BAT	BALL	TOTAL		
Rajshahi	7	4	1	2	14	26	80		
Khulna	7	2	0	5	18	28	80		
Chittagong	7	2	2	3	13	28	65		
Dhaka	7	2	1	4	12	26	62		
Barisal	7	2	4	1	10	25	55		
Sylhet	7	0	4	3	9	27	44		



PHOTO: STAR

STYLISH INDEED: Chittagong batsman Nazimuddin executing a sweetly timed pull shot during his match-saving knock of unbeaten 121 against Khulna on the final day of the four-day National League match at the Chittagong Divisional Stadium yesterday.

# England to show intent

## 2nd Test from today

## Cricket

AFP, Colombo

England coach Peter Moores wants his team to be streetwise and aggressive as the tourists bid for a series-leveling win in the second Test against Sri Lanka starting on Sunday.

England lost the first Test in Kandy by 88 runs despite holding a first innings lead of 93 runs and failed to bat out an extra 30 minutes on the final day that could have drawn the match.

Moores said the lessons learnt from the Kandy Test will help them during the formidable home team match the second match at the

Sinhalese Sports Club, one of Sri Lanka's favourite hunting grounds. "We have to be a bit more savvy, a bit more streetwise and find different ways of attacking," said Moores.

"We have got to be able to sustain periods of pressure for longer with both bat and ball and, if we do those things, then we can make it hard work for them."

"One of the worst things we could do is chase the game. If we create pressure there is some fragility there we can expose."

England will be inspired by their 2001 predecessors under Nasser Hussain who fought back after losing the first Test to win the next two and take the series 2-1. England must choose between

the experienced Steve Harmison and Test rookie Stuart Broad to replace frontline strike bowler Matthew Hoggard, who is an unlikely starter after the back injury sustained in Kandy.

The injury-prone Harmison missed the opening Test with back spasms, having just recovered from hernia surgery that forced him to prove his fitness playing first-class cricket in South Africa ahead of the Sri Lanka tour.

Sri Lanka have recalled 22-year-old opener Upul Tharanga to replace veteran Sanath Jayasuriya, who announced his retirement from Test cricket after the Kandy match.

Left-handed Tharanga, who played his last of his 13 Tests

SEE PAGE 18 COL 2



PHOTO: AFP

INSTANT IMPACT: Indian left-handed batsman Yuvraj Singh (L), who has been drafted in the third Test after missing the first two, celebrates his century against Pakistan with a vintage Sourav Ganguly at the Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bangalore yesterday. Ganguly also scored his century on an eventful first day that saw the pair adding an imperious 300 for the fifth wicket after India had slumped to 4-61.

## BFF president Sultan blasts Sports Adviser

### SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) president SA Sultan yesterday criticised Sports Adviser Tapan Chowdhury for making remarks against the BFF by 'going out of his jurisdiction'.

Tapan told reporters on Thursday while announcing the National Sports Awards at his office that the government was concerned about recent situation of the BFF.

"Time has come for us to do something about this. It can't go on like this," Tapan had remarked referring to the delay in the BFF elections.

"I have talked with the National Sports Council chairman and we are thinking seriously to do something about this."

SEE PAGE 18 COL 1

## BVF honours ex-players, organisers

### SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Volleyball Federation (BVF) yesterday honoured noted volleyball players, organisers and officials in a function that turned into a reunion of the game's fraternity at the Volleyball Stadium.

Former education, cultural and sports secretary AKM Zakaria -- a renowned spiker of the past and ex-president of the federation -- who was among the three organisers to receive special honour, was the chief guest of the programme sponsored by federation's long time patron Transcom Beverages Limited.

Salahuddin Ahmed and Ayeaz Khan were the other organisers while Khondokar Abul Hassan, Farid Uddin Chowdhury and Mohammad Ullah the three players to receive mementos from the federation.

The BVF showed its gratefulness to long time sponsorship partners National Bank, City Bank, NCC United Commercial Bank, KYK Line, First Security Bank, Finley Tea, Asif Apparels, Shah Sports and Transcom.

The federation also presented blazers to all the 15 members of the Bangladesh volleyball team which finished runners-up in the 2nd Commonwealth Volleyball

SEE PAGE 18 COL 1

# 'I should've got 200'

## Cricket

CRICINFO, undated

When Yuvraj Singh cracked a sensational 358 in the final of the Cooch Behar Trophy -- an under-19 tournament -- in 1999-2000, his father is supposed to have admonished him for not going on to make a quadruple century. He expected another call today, talking about a double-hundred, but one which came with heartfelt congratulations as well.

"One hundred and sixty-nine is a lot of runs," said Yuvraj, talking about his third Test hundred, all of which have come against Pakistan. "I should have got 200, and I am disappointed from a personal point of view that I did not. But I am delighted that Sourav and I hauled the team out of a tough situation, from 61 for 4. What is most important for me is that the team is in a good position."

It's been nearly 18 months since Yuvraj last played in a Test and he admitted to the frustrations during the intervening period. He was also aware that he could miss out when India walk out to the park in Melbourne to take on Australia on Boxing Day. "It feels bad to sit out, but

you must see how many great players we have in the middle order," he said. "Rahul, Sachin, Laxman and Sourav all have very good Test records. Going out to bat today, I wasn't worried about the Australia tour and whether I can secure my place in the XI. I wanted to play for the team, to help the team win the Test."

Was he hurt at being left out for so long, despite staking his claim so emphatically in the one-day arena? "I had a very bad Test series in the West Indies, and after that, the rest of the batsmen all played well," he said. "I have myself to blame. I stayed motivated, worked hard on my game, and was determined to take my chance when it came my way again. I always knew that I could do well in Test cricket. You have time to settle down and play yourself in. To me, Test cricket is the main thing."

Yuvraj walked in with India in a pickle. Yasir Arafat, the debutant medium-pacer, had made a mess of the top order by surprising a few with zip off the pitch. The pitch assisted him, as Arafat himself admitted, but it still required a good spell to remove three prized scalps. Hailing from Rawalpindi, he doesn't possess the furious pace of his city-mate Shoaib Akhtar but makes up with accuracy. In fact one Pakistan

newspaper recently referred to him as the Rawalpindi Mail (in contrast with the more speedy Express).

Arafat had to first come to terms with making his debut. By the first session, he was enjoying a fairytale start. "I was playing domestic cricket in Pakistan and I didn't think I will be called up," he said. "People consider me as an allrounder suited to one-dayers. I was surprised I got a call up. I didn't think much about Tests. But I got a chance because of injuries. And now I've made a debut. The pitch was supporting the fast bowlers early on. I wanted to bowl on and outside off and get wickets because of that. But I didn't think I'll get such important wickets so early."

The rest of the day wasn't as rosy. "After lunch it became a good wicket. It was playing very easy, like a good batting track. It was very frustrating for me and the team. But again, they played well. But credit to the batsmen. Yuvraj is a very talented cricketer and his innings was tremendous today."

Yuvraj might have hogged the headlines today but Arafat's chance will come. With a name like that, headline writers will struggle to control the urge.



PHOTO: STAR

Transcom chairman and managing director Latifur Rahman hands over a trophy to veteran volleyball organiser Salahuddin Ahmed (R) during a reception at the Volleyball Stadium yesterday.

SEE PAGE 18 COL 1