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Abahani defender Feroz (L) embraces Shuva after the striker's second goal against Mohammedan as their teammates rush to celebrate during yesterday's Premier Hockey Super League match at the Maulana Bhasani National Hockey Stadium.

Warne rules out dramatic return

AFP, Sydney
The manager of Australian bowling great Shane Warne Tuesday ruled out a dramatic return to action for the player in next year's Ashes clash against England.
Spinner Stuart MacGill's sudden announcement this week that he would play no more Tests has prompted widespread speculation in Australia that Warne could again don the baggy green cap to terrorise the old enemy.



Did U Know?

Neroli Susan Fairhall of New Zealand made Olympic history in 1984 by being the first paraplegic competitor in the Games.



David Morgan
(ICC president-elect)
"I'm proud that Twenty20, a format first developed by the England and Wales Cricket Board, had such a widespread appeal, bringing in new, wider and young audience which ICC welcomes."



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Live from 6:00pm
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Abahani stay alive Beat Mohammedan 6-5

Hockey
SPORTS REPORTER

Even four second-half goals including a couple in the last 60 seconds were not enough for Mohammedan Sporting Club from losing an 11-goal thriller to their archrivals Abahani, who stayed alive in the Green Delta Premier Hockey League championship race with yesterday's three vital points.
Abahani's 6-5 victory -- their overall tenth and first in a big match this season -- at the Maulana Bhasani National Hockey Stadium meant they still have to win the Super 5 finale against current leaders Usha Krira Chakra to get their hands on the trophy when the two defending joint-champions face off on Friday.
Usha, however, can afford a draw in the title decider as they enjoy a two-point lead over the sky-blues who reached 31 points after

12 rounds.
Mohammedan, who held Abahani 3-3 in the first leg and spoiled Usha's party with a 3-2 win last week, stuck to 26 points to confirm third place with a match in hand, against Sonali Bank tomorrow.
Unlike the two giants' first-leg battle when Abahani came from 3-1 down to pull off a draw, they enjoyed superior possession and cruised to a 4-1 lead at the break.
However, Abahani lost the midfield supremacy after resumption as Mohammedan threatened to recover despite going down 5-2 and 6-3.
Abahani centre-back Mamunur

Teams	M	W	D	L	GF	GA	Total
Usha	12	11	0	1	60	23	33
Abahani	12	10	1	1	60	20	31
MSC	12	8	2	2	45	23	26
Sonali	12	7	1	4	40	32	22
Ajax	13	4	1	8	22	40	13

Rahman Chayan found his touch from the penalty corners -- converting three setpieces against his old side -- while Moududur Rahman Shuvo scored a brace and Pakistani recruit Mohammed Modasser added the other for Abahani in a match where the defenders were at mercy of the aggressive attackers.
Successfully handcuffed by rival skipper Mahub Ehsan Rana, Pakistani playmaker Mohammed Sabbir hit the mark twice from penalty strokes, Mostafa Manik fired twice and Issa Mia scored the remaining goal for Mohammedan.
Jimmy and Kuti traded passes between them to set Shuva score the opener with a looping drive after two minutes but the lead lasted one minute as Issa shot home a penalty corner to equalise for the black and whites.
League's top scorer Chayan netted successive penalty corners to take his tally to 14 goals as

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Lee blitzes WI

Cricket
AFP, St. John's

Australia extended their lead to 371, after Brett Lee bowled with vigour to hand them a healthy first innings lead in the second Test against West Indies on Monday.
The Australians, chasing quick runs to set up a match-winning position for them on the last day, reached 244 for six in their second innings when stumps were drawn on the fourth day of the Test at the Vivian Richards Cricket Ground.
This all followed a dramatic morning period, when Lee captured five wickets for 59 runs from 21 overs, as West Indies, replying to Australia's first innings total of 479 for seven declared, were dismissed for 352 about 10 minutes before the scheduled lunch interval.
It was the ninth time in a Test that Lee had taken five wickets or more in an innings, and sent West Indies crashing from the comfort of 314 for four to transform the complexion of the match.
Lee triggered a collapse which saw West Indies lose their last six wickets for 38 runs in the space of 68 balls.
His bowling completely overshadowed another epic Test hundred from long-standing West Indies left-hander Shivnarine Chanderpaul, whose undefeated 107 was his 19th Test hundred, second in successive matches, and the home team's top score.
Chanderpaul reached his milestone, when he swept Andrew Symonds for the 11th of his 12 boundaries from 236 balls in almost six hours of batting.
Australia then made a sound start to their second innings, when opener Mike Hussey and Phil

Jaqes put on 74 for the first wicket.
But the Aussies lost makeshift opener Hussey before tea, when he was caught behind for 40 driving loosely at a delivery from Dwayne Bravo, as the visitors reached 92 for one at the break.
Hussey was promoted to open the batting, after Simon Katich was forced to seek medical treatment for a bruised rib which he sustained when he scored 113 in the Australia first innings.
After tea, the Australians hunted quick runs, and this provided West Indies with the chance to take a few wickets along the way.
Jaqes used the opportunity to

boosts his confidence with a purposeful 76 and solid batting down the order ensured that Australia's lead gradually increased.
Jaqes added 89 for the second wicket with Australia captain Ricky Ponting before they were both dismissed within 13 balls of each other to leave the visitors 178 for three.
Michael Clarke, a century-maker in the Australia first innings, was run out for 10, and Australia also lost Brad Haddin lbw to Fidel Edwards for seven, as well as Lee caught behind off the same bowler for four before stumps.
Edwards has taken two wickets

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An ecstatic Brett Lee screams out after nailing West Indian Dinesh Ramdin (not in picture) in front of the stumps on the fourth day of the second Test at the Sir Vivian Richards Cricket Ground in Antigua on Monday.

Batsmen still lacklustre

SPORTS REPORTER

The first practice match between Bangladesh national team and the second string team was completed under floodlights without any interruption despite scattered rains on the day before start of action yesterday.
The match however started half an hour late from the scheduled time due to the rain to make it a 48-over-a-side affair. The venue of the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur once again proved to be nice as puddles of water drained away quite quickly.
There was however no sign of upturn in the Tigers batting as the national team were bundled out for a paltry 194 in 47.5 overs. It was another usual top-order collapse even in the practice match as the senior side were reduced to 21 for three after batting first.
Shahriar Nafees fell victim of a run out and his opening partner Tamim Iqbal went for a wild shot against pacer Mahubul Alam only to see his stumps shattered while skipper Mohammad Ashraful was dismissed for 16.
Before Nazimuddin caught him at extra cover off new ball bowler Rubel Hossain, the Tigers captain could have been out twice.
Rokibul Hasan and wicketkeeper Mushfiqur Rahim looked well before the latter was trapped in front by Rubel for 25 runs.
"Mushfiqur should have batted till the end," said chief selector Rafiqul Alam who praised Rokibul's patience. Rokibul made 52 off 98 balls with five fours and a six while Mehrab Hossain added 31 and Mashrafe Bin Mortaza chipped in with 24.
Till the report was last filed, Bangladesh A were on the brink of victory with 182 for five at the end of 35 overs.

'My best old ball spell'
CRICINFO, undated
Brett Lee ended the day with a sore head and an incorrect dismissal, but the incidents could not stop him glowing about the destructive spell that earned a five-wicket haul and kept Australia in the hunt for victory. Lee finished West Indies off for 352 in an incredible contribution that was helped by the umpire Russell Tiffin, who made three incorrect calls.
After being wicketless in his first 16 overs, Lee discovered some lethal reverse-swing and delivered a series of unplayable balls to finish with 5 for 59 off 21. "I do think it is definitely the best spell I have bowled with the old ball," Lee said after play. "It's probably the most I have ever moved a ball -- it's gone late too."
Denesh Ramdin and Darren Sammy were undone by the vicious movement and judged lbw by Tiffin despite playing shots and the ball hitting their pads outside off. Three Lee deliveries before Sammy went Dwayne Bravo was ruled to have edged behind, but the only concession to the umpire was that Lee was operating at 90mph and everything seemed to happen in fast forward.
"There are days when it just clicks, and those moments, those six overs, are the reason why I play Test cricket," Lee said. "It happened easily, I wasn't trying to bowl the ball too fast, the ball came out

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Lancs cannot keep Yousuf

REUTERS, Manchester

The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) has rejected a request from English county team Lancashire to allow Mohammed Yousuf to miss this month's tri-series against India and hosts Bangladesh, a Lancashire spokeswoman confirmed on Monday.
The club signed Yousuf, 33, last month to cover for their Australian overseas player Brad Hodge who belatedly agreed to play in an Indian domestic Twenty20 event.
Yousuf's stay was extended when Hodge was required by Australia on their West Indies tour, to cover for Michael Clarke who was on compassionate leave due to the failing health of his fiancée's father.
"The PCB have been brilliant and very helpful in allowing Mohammed to extend his contract with us after Brad was needed in the Caribbean," the spokeswoman said.
"We just hoped that they may allow us to keep him a little bit longer and we asked the question but they indicated that they wanted to take a full-strength squad to Bangladesh so he will be heading back to Pakistan on Tuesday."
Yousuf is the third highest-scoring batsman in Pakistan's test match history with 6,770 runs from 79 games.

Asif arrested Found with 'drugs' at Dubai airport

Cricket
AFP, Lahore

Pakistani fast bowler Mohammad Asif has been arrested at Dubai airport on charges of possessing illegal drugs, cricket officials said Tuesday.
The 25-year-old Asif was seized while returning home from India after featuring in a domestic event that ended on Sunday, Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) officials said.
"Yes, we can confirm about Asif's arrest. He was stopped at Dubai airport on charges of carrying opium and was supposed to be brought before the magistrate on Tuesday," the official said.
PCB human resources director Nadeem Akram said he was in Dubai and has also hired a lawyer to assist Asif.
"I am in Dubai as part of the PCB's efforts to get Asif cleared. As far as we know a contraband item was in his wallet which he himself did not know and it's in a very small quantity," Akram told AFP by telephone.
"He was detained at the airport and was interrogated. As far as we know no first incident report has been lodged as yet but police have conducted several tests on Asif including a urine test. A lawyer has also been hired," he said.
"We have not been officially told about the nature of the substance

and quantity. There have been lots of speculations."
PCB spokesman Shafiqat Naghmi told a news conference in the eastern city of Lahore that Asif said the substance involved was medicine.
"The lawyer said Asif is in good spirits and he is looking forward to returning home. It is all based on some assumptions -- he said he had some medicine and they don't know about it," Naghmi said.
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MOHAMMAD ASIF

Bangladesh face Bhutan today India crush Nepal

SPORTS REPORTER

SAFF CHAMPIONSHIP
Madhya-Pradesh-2008
Bhutan will give Bangladesh another opportunity to win their first international match in over two years when the two sides meet in the Group B opener of the fifth SAFF Football Championship in Colombo today.
The match, which kicks off at 5:30 pm (Bangladesh time) at the Sugathadasa Stadium, will be telecast live by ATN Bangla.
Having won the 2003 SAFF Championship at home, Bangladesh ran two years and 11 months without an international win and broke the duck when they crushed Bhutan 3-0 in the 2005 SAFF Championship opener in Karachi.
Abu Yusuf's boys now face the

South Asian minnows in a similar situation and feel confident to end their latest lean patch of two years and two months, which started after beating Guam 3-0 in the inaugural AFC Challenge Cup at home in April 2006.
Winners in 2003 and runners-up in Karachi, Bangladesh are pitted against Afghanistan and co-hosts Sri Lanka in their group.
National captain Aminul Haque told in a message to the Bangladesh Football Federation yesterday that the team's morale is high after a good preparation match against Thailand's BEK Toro FC, which ended in a goalless draw in Bangkok on May 30.
"We have managed to correct many of our mistakes and are now prepared to beat Bhutan to take a step towards the semifinal, which is our initial target," Aminul said.
"Everyone in the country wants us to win this trophy and we are like

Ana storms into semis

French Open
AFP, Paris

Ana Ivanovic of Serbia moved within one match of her third Grand Slam final by defeating Swiss veteran Patty Schnyder 6-3, 6-2 in the French Open quarterfinals on Tuesday.
The 20-year-old second seed lost to Justine Henin in straight sets in the final here last year and to Maria Sharapova in the Australian Open final in January.
Playing in damp, overcast conditions, Ivanovic broke early to lead 2-0, but the 29-year-old 10th seed,

playing in her 48th Grand Slam tournament and 13th straight at Roland Garros, hit back to level at 2-2.
Ivanovic was clearly the more powerful of the two with Schnyder looking to counter by moving the bigger woman around with her looping cross-court groundstrokes.
The Belgrade beauty took the first set 6-3 and she immediately broke to love in the opening game of the second, a deft drop shot winner doing the damage on breakpoint.
Schnyder had three break points on the Ivanovic serve in the following game, but the Serb had her backpedalling frantically as she battled back to hold on for a 2-0 lead.
The Swiss player survived a



Bangladesh fast bowler Mashrafe Bin Mortaza (R) sends down a delivery to Bangladesh A opener Nazimuddin during their limited-overs practice match under lights at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium yesterday.