



PHOTO: STAR

**NECK AND CROP:** The off-stump is blown away by the pacy Shahadat Hossain (not in picture) as Sri Lanka batsman Chamara Kapugedera is left groping during the second day of the practice match at BKSP in Savar yesterday.

## Herath spot on

SPORTS REPORTER



Rangana Herath justified his captain's decision by taking six wickets on the second day of the practice game against a wretched BCB XI at the BKSP in Savar yesterday.

The local selection were packed off for a miserable 88 in just 34.1 overs on effectively the first session of the match after play was abandoned on Day One due to a wet pitch. The Sri Lankans were however given two jolts but survived in the final hour to end at 36 for two before play was called off early due to bad light. Paceman Shahadat tore through Chamara Kapugedera's defences after Tariq Aziz dismissed Malinda Warnapura, with both men out for ducks. Skipper Mahela Jayawardene and Michael Vandort remained unbeaten on 14 and 17 respectively.

But the day belonged to the Sri Lankan left-arm spinner who later told the reporters that his skipper wanted him to bowl a long spell due to his long absence from international cricket.

"I have come back into the national team after nine months so the captain wanted me to bowl more than the others," said a beaming Herath after the end of day's play who bowled at first change, much ahead of senior bowler Muttiah Muralidaran.

The thousand or so crowd that was allowed into the country's lone sports institution must not have foreseen such a debacle by the BCB XI batsmen who boasted as many as five Test batsmen.

The rot started as early as the third over with the wicket of Nafis Iqbal, trapped leg-before by the veteran Chaminda Vaas for a first-ball duck. The Sri Lankan new-ball attack made perfect

use of the wet wicket and the overhead conditions and it was Dhammika Prasad, the fiery fast bowler, who took the second wicket off the first ball of the sixth over. Rajin Saleh was purely beaten by the pace of the right-armed and the skipper ended his

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PHOTO: STAR

Sri Lanka left-arm spinner Rangana Herath eyes the flight of his delivery during the second day of the practice match against BCB XI at BKSP in Savar yesterday.



### Did U Know?

In 2001, playing for Aston Villa, Peter Schmeichel became the first keeper to score a goal in a Premier League match.



### What to Watch

**Neo Cricket**  
India v England  
Second Test, Day Five  
Live from 10:00am  
**ESPN**  
Sportscentre India  
Sports News  
Live at 8:30pm



### Talk Turkey



**Wayne Rooney**  
(Man United striker)  
"To be crowned the best in the world is a great achievement."  
After winning the Club World Cup title in Japan on Sunday.



### Day's Event

BCB XI v Sri Lankans  
(3-day warm-up match, Day 3)  
Venue: BKSP  
Nat'l Cricket League  
(Four-Dayer, Day Three)  
Rajshahi v Khulna  
Venue: Rajshahi Divisional Stadium  
Dhaka v Barisal  
Venue: Fatullah Cricket Stadium  
Sylhet v Chittagong  
Venue: Sylhet Divisional Stadium  
Citycell B. League  
Sheikh Russel v Ctg  
Mohammedan  
Venue: Bangabandhu National Stadium  
Time: 4:30pm

## Barisal stay alive

SPORTS REPORTER



Title contenders Barisal fought back in their second innings against Dhaka to keep their hopes alive at the end of the second day's play of the final round National Cricket League match at the Fatullah Cricket Stadium yesterday.

The league leaders, who started the final round with a mere one point advantage over Rajshahi, overcame their first innings deficit in overcast conditions when they finished the day on 111-2 to take a 61-run lead.

There was more good news for them as Robiul Islam's five-wicket haul saw their nearest rivals Rajshahi also concede a first innings lead

against Khulna. However, left-arm spinner Sohravordi Shuvo continued his surge to give the hosts the upper hand before stumps were drawn for the day.

Away at the Sylhet Stadium, Chittagong rode on Masum-dowla's hundred to amass 382 runs but the home side offered a strong reply as they scored 121 without loss at stumps.

**DHAKA-BARISAL**  
Number nine batsman Anamul Haque might have made only 23 but his effort helped Dhaka to ensure a creditable 50-run first innings lead when they were all out for 175 after resuming the day on 43-3.

Opener Javed Omar, who started the day on 11 runs, anchored the Dhaka innings with a 203-ball 62 that fea-

tured ten boundaries while Anamul smashed three fours and a six to make a 30-ball 23.

Talha Jubair, Arafat Salahuddin and Nasir Hossain claimed three wickets each to cut down the lead.

After their dismal batting in the first essay Barisal made a disastrous start when Ashraful Haque removed Nasiruddin Faruque for nought with the scoreboard reading 9.

But Rony Talukdar and Hannan Sarker repaired the damage by associating in a 97-run stand for the second wicket before Marshal Ayub hit pay-dirt in his first over to dismiss out-of-favour Hannan for 38 runs. Rony remained not out on 67.

**RAJSHAHI-KHULNA**

After his six-wicket haul Shuvo shone with the bat but his

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## NCL one-dayers from Jan 1

SPORTS REPORTER

The limited-over version of the 10th National Cricket League will start from January 1 across the country.

The national stars will not be available for the 50-over-a-side contest, as they will be busy with international engagements with the visiting Sri Lanka and Zimbabwe.

The Tigers only played one round in the four-day competition when they took part in the penultimate round of the tournament after their return from South Africa.

Khulna will take on Sylhet at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium, Rajshahi will meet

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## Gambhir holds India

Cricket

AFP, Mohali

India inched closer to winning the Test series against England after the tourists made a bold attempt Monday to turn the second Test their way.

England, trailing by 151 runs on the first innings, reduced India to 44-3 in their second knock after lunch on the fourth day before opener Gautam Gambhir once again proved astumbling block.

The left-hander, who made 179 in the first innings, was unbeaten on 44 as India closed the day at 134 for four, an overall lead of 285 runs with six wickets in hand.

Barring a sensational turn of events on the final day, India look set to force a draw and take the two-match series 1-0 after winning the first Test in Chennai by six wickets.

England ripped through India's top-order as Virender Sehwag was run out for 17 and first-innings century maker Rahul Dravid was bowled middle stump by Stuart Broad for zero.

Ian Bell threw himself on the stumps to run out the dangerous Sehwag, who called Gambhir for a sharp single after playing a defensive shot off Broad.

James Anderson then had Sachin Tendulkar caught by Graeme Swann at gully for five to make India 44-3, a lead of

just 195 runs.

Gambhir put on 36 for the fourth wicket with Venkatsai Laxman (15) and 54 for the unfinished fifth with Yuvraj Singh, who hit a quickfire 39 not out off 40 balls with five boundaries and a six.

Laxman was the second Indian batsman to be run out when Flintoff swept on the ball in the covers and threw to wicketkeeper Matt Prior before the batsman had made his ground.

Earlier, India bowled out England for 302 in their first innings just before lunch to gain a handsome lead of 151 runs.

England, resuming at their overnight score of 282-6, lost their last four wickets quickly

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## Late strikes rescue 10-man Brothers

SPORTS REPORTER



Henry Quaye and Shakil Ahmed struck inside the last six minutes to salvage a depleted Brothers Union with a 3-1 win against bottom-table Khulna Abahani in yesterday's Citycell B. League at the Bangabandhu National Stadium.

Stand-in skipper Rezaul Karim Liton had put Brothers ahead after 53 minutes but substitute Tarikul Islam's first touch on the ball cancelled the lead ten minutes from time as the visitors looked set to win their first point in ten games before a late disaster.

Brothers started without suspended attacking midfielder Zahid Hossain and captain and centre-back Amit Khan Shuvra and fell into further trouble when they were reduced to ten men after 32 minutes.

In a harsh decision, referee Mizanur Rahman sent off Arup Baidya after the fullback clashed with visiting goalkeeper Foyez Ahmed,

who had to be stretchered off the ground with a fractured shen.

The two opponents were chasing a through ball and collided just inside the Abahani penalty area, which seemed to the referee as an intentional foul by the Brothers player.

Brothers, who had survived an early chance, never picked up the tempo in the rest of the first half but came close to score on the stroke of halftime when Ghanaian striker Henry's header on a cross by Liton went just wide.

Earlier, Pikul -- who joined the Khulna outfit from Rahmatganj in the mid-season transfer window -- should have put his new side ahead in the 16th minute. Having controlled a lob by Khaled Saifullah, Pikul ran near the six-yard box but failed to keep his effort under bar.

Wasim Iqbal's ten-man side, however, got off to a fine start in the second half when Henry's pin-point cross from the right picked up Liton, who was raring to go at the far post, headed the ball past substitute keeper Nahid.

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PHOTO: AFP

**WOW:** Ian Bell flies into the stumps at the bowling end to run out India opener Virender Sehwag (L) during the fourth day of the second Test at the PCA Stadium in Mohali yesterday.



PHOTO: STAR

Khulna Abahani fullback Shakil (L) tries to stop a run by Brothers Union midfielder Matiuur Munna during their Citycell B. League match at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

ধারাবাহিক টেলিভিশন নাটক

# কলকাতা

রচনা : সেলিম আল দীন  
চিত্রনাট্য ও পরিচালনা : আফজাল হোসেন

আজ হতে প্রতি মঙ্গলবার  
সন্ধ্যা ৭:৩০ মিনিটে  
শুধুমাত্র  
বিটিভিতে

সহযোগিতায়: জাতীয় এইডস/এসটিভি কোথাম, স্বাস্থ্য অধিদপ্তর, স্বাস্থ্য ও পরিবার কল্যাণ মন্ত্রণালয় এবং সেভ দি চিলড্রেন - ইউএসএ