



ROARING TIGER: Bangladesh left-arm spinner Enamul Haque roars after taking a West Indies wicket on the first day of the second Test at the National Cricket Stadium in St George's on Friday. Enamul took three wickets.

Tigers spin their way back

Cricket

AFP, St George's

Bangladesh's spinners gave them control of the second and final Test against West Indies on Friday, despite a resilient 95 from Travis Dowlin before the home team were dismissed for 237 in their first innings.

The Tigers then confidently negotiated 10 overs in about an hour to reach 35 for one in reply with Tamim Iqbal not out on 14 and Enamul Haque not out on five at the close on the opening day of the Test at the National Cricket Stadium at St George's in Grenada.

Bangladesh suffered an early setback, when opener Imrul Kayes was caught behind off Darren Sammy for 14.

But earlier, the Tigers' frontline spin bowling triumvirate of Mahmudullah, Enamul, and stand-in captain Shakib Al-Hasan extracted appreciable bounce and turn from the pitch, and tormented the West Indies' batsmen, after the visitors chose to field.

Mahmudullah captured three wickets for 44 runs from 13 overs with his off-spin, Shakib took three for 59 from 21.1 overs, and fellow left-arm spinner Enamul, who replaced injured captain and fast bowler Mashrafe Bin Mortaza, supported with three for 62 from 24 overs.

Before lunch, Mahmudullah grabbed

two wickets in his first and only over to leave West Indies wobbling on 107 for three.

Mahmudullah, playing in only his second Test, pulled things back for Bangladesh, after West Indies practically dominated the first hour with an opening stand of 60 from Dale Richards and Omar Phillips.

Mahmudullah removed Richards for 69 and Ryan Hinds for two -- both caught and bowled -- in the space of three balls in the penultimate over before the interval to leave West Indies wobbling.

After play started half-hour later than

10th of his 11 fours.

But Mahmudullah change the course of the innings, when he dismissed Richards, after the batsman flat-batted his second ball for the last of his two sixes, and two balls later, Hinds, who replaced left-arm spinner Nikita Miller in the West Indies line-up.

After lunch, a near hour-long stoppage for rain failed to slow Bangladesh down, as West Indies slumped to 178 for seven.

Mahmudullah trapped West Indies captain Floyd Reifer lbw for one in the third over after the interval before rain stalled Bangladesh half-hour later.

The weather however, did little to put a damper on Bangladesh's enthusiasm and the spinners' hold on the West Indies' batsmen when play resumed. Shakib had Dave Bernard Jr caught at backward point for 17 after putting on a valuable 43 with Dowlin for the fifth wicket.

This triggered a slide which saw Bangladesh collect three wickets for three runs in the space of 11 balls before Dowlin inched to his 50, when he drove his 94th delivery from Shakib through extra cover for two.

After tea, Bangladesh were frustrated, when Ryan Austin joined Dowlin and added 59 for the eighth wicket before Shahadat dismissed him hit wicket.

Bangladesh then claimed the last three West Indies wickets for 18 in 34 balls, with Shakib ending the innings, when he had

SEE PAGE 18 COL 2



Did U Know?

Badminton is the second most popular sport in the world, after soccer.



Cristiano Ronaldo
(Real Madrid's new signing)
"I am just another player at the club who has come to help Real win titles. Nothing else. I am the same as the others, not better, not worse."



TEN Sports
West Indies v Bangladesh
Second Test, Day 3
Live from 9:00pm
STAR Cricket
England v Australia
2nd Ashes Test, Day 4
Live from 5:00pm

No room for Akhtar for SL ODIs

PTI, Karachi

Controversial Pakistan fast bowler Shoaib Akhtar will not be considered for the one-day series in Sri Lanka on fitness grounds, interim chief selector Wasim Bari said on Saturday.

Bari, who left for Sri Lanka yesterday to consult with the team management over the composition of the one-day squad, told 'Geo News' that Akhtar would not be considered for the five limited-overs matches and a Twenty20 International.

Bari said since Akhtar had only given fitness test but not bowled in the nets, the selectors were not aware of his match fitness.

"Without knowing his match fitness how can we select him for the series. Until he does not play a few matches we cannot be sure of his match fitness," Bari, a former Test captain and now PCB director of Human Resources, said.

Bangladesh to host SAFF C'ship

Football

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh is set to host the South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) Championship this December.

"I can assure you 85 per cent at the moment that Bangladesh will host the SAFF Championship. I will confirm you cent per cent in 10 to 15 days," said Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) president Kazi Salahuddin at a briefing after returning from Malaysia, where he was invited to attend the AFC Audit Committee meeting.

If the SAFF Championship is staged in December, the BFF will have to push the Bangabandhu Gold Cup, scheduled to be held in October-November, sometimes next year.

India was originally scheduled to stage the regional championship involving eight nations. But after the terrorist attacks in Mumbai, India and Pakistan closed the door for any sporting relations between the two countries.

With India's football federation failed to break the ice, Bangladesh got the backing of other participating nations during the AFC Congress in May to host the meet.

Salahuddin had also declared then that Bangladesh would host the SAFF Championship, but the SAFF Committee gave India few more weeks before taking the final decision.

"The SAFF Congress as well as its election will be held in Dhaka in October next with the presence of AFC president Mohamed Bin Hammam. I hope a declaration regarding the Championship

will come after the election," said Salahuddin, who is set to become the new SAFF president ending a long reign of Nepalese Ganesh Thapa.

Thapa has been at the helm since 2000 and could hardly manage to organise a SAFF Championship regularly.

Explaining the reason behind Hammam's visit to Bangladesh in October, Salahuddin said, "The AFC is pleased with the activities of the BFF and they are very keen on how to take Bangladesh football forward. That's why Hammam will visit Bangladesh as well as meet the Prime minister."

The BFF boss informed that the AFC has granted an additional 4,000 dollars per month to run the federation smoothly.

Salahuddin said that if the SAFF Championship was awarded to Bangladesh then BFF executive committee would sit together to take the decision regarding the shifting of the Bangabandhu Gold Cup.

Besides, the BFF is very keen to make sure of the participation of the two Indian giants Mohanbagan and East Bengal who are yet to confirm their participation in October or November.

The BFF chief had a discussion with the All India Football Federation general secretary Alberto Colaco in Malaysia and it was agreed that both clubs would be available in January, not in October-November this year.

"He (Colaco) agreed to send both clubs, preferring to a time slot between January 1-15 and I could not make any word as the BFF executive committee had decided to hold the tournament in October-November," said Salahuddin adding that the executive committee would sit before Ramadan to finalise the date.

Vaas's farewell Test?

Cricket

AFP, Colombo

Rampant Sri Lanka go into the final Test against Pakistan here from Monday aiming for a 3-0 sweep despite the uncertain future of veteran seamer Chaminda Vaas.

Vaas, 35, was named in a 16-man squad for the third Test at the Sinhalese Sports Club after being overlooked for the first two matches which Sri Lanka won to take a winning 2-0 lead in the series.

The Daily Mirror newspaper reported on Saturday that the Sri Lankan selectors and administrators picked the left-arm seamer to give him the opportunity to use the match as a farewell Test.

It had already been suggested in media reports earlier that the 110-Test veteran was being eased out of the five-day game and would only play one-day and Twenty20 cricket.

However, Sri Lanka's chief selector Asantha de Mel rubbished speculation that a deal had been struck with Vaas which could see him bow out of Test cricket after the match.

"We did not have any deals or understandings," de Mel was quoted as saying by the Daily Mirror. "We did not even speak to him. We just picked him into the squad."

"We have to wait and see if he gets the chance to play

when the final 11 is named before the match."

It is unlikely Vaas, who has 354 Test wickets since his debut in 1994, will be asked to sit out after being named in

the 16, but it remains to be seen who he will replace from the winning combination.

One option before the selectors is to make Vaas the

SEE PAGE 18 COL 6



Pakistan captain Younus Khan catches a ball during a practice session at the Sinhalese Sports Club grounds in Colombo yesterday.

WORLD CUP 2011 Dewan chief of LOC

SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) on Saturday named Dewan Shafiqul Arefin as convenor of the Local Organising Committee (LOC) for the 2011 World Cup.

The board meeting at its Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium headquarters in the evening also entrusted the three-member LOC, to be headed by BCB president Lt Gen Sinaibn Jmal, to form a full committee as soon as possible.

Bangladesh will host the opening ceremony of the 2011 World Cup. Besides, it will host two quarterfinals apart from six first-round matches.

Ahmed Iqbal Hasan, the other member of the core group for the Viking job, will act as treasurer.

The meeting also decided that the joint secretary (political) of the Ministry of Home Affairs will represent Bangladesh in the Central Security Committee for the ICC CWC 2011. The alternate representative will be the DIG of police (headquarters).

The BCB has decided to donate 5,000 dollars to the ICC to support the families of the victims of the Lahore terrorist attack.

The marathon meeting also decided to create a reserve of 20 per cent from each year's revenue and formulate a Strategic and Operational Plan for the next four years.

Trio to join ODI squad in WI

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Cricket Board yesterday announced that three players would be joining the Bangladesh squad in West Indies for the ODI series. They are left-arm spinner Abdur Razzak, paceman Syed Rassel and all-rounder Naeem Islam. The players will leave Dhaka tomorrow evening and are expected to reach Grenada on Monday.

U-19s need 283 runs

SPORTS REPORTER

England left Bangladesh chasing a target of 283 runs after the end of their 50 over innings in the first match of the U-19 Youth one day series in Leicester yesterday.

Losing the toss, England was sent to bat first and reached 282/7 in the stipulated 50 overs. SA Northeast's hammered an impressive 123 runs while Mahmudul Hasan took three wickets for visiting team.

In reply, Bangladesh scored 47/1 in 8.4 overs with Amit Majumder scoring 29 runs. CP Wood took the first wicket for the host side.

England go slow

Cricket

AFP, London

England's bid for a first Test win over Australia at Lord's in 75 years stalled after lunch here on the third day.

England, having decided against enforcing the follow-on, were 130 for two at tea on Saturday -- a lead of 340 runs.

Ravi Bopara was 19 not out and Kevin Pietersen 28 not

out. But neither batsman looked at their best during a stand so far worth 56 as England, having escaped with a draw in last week's opener in Cardiff, went in search of a win that would put them 1-0 up in the five-Test series.

And Bopara was lucky still to be at the crease at all.

The No. 3 had made just nine when he edged Peter Siddle only for Australia captain Ricky Ponting, at second

slip, to stun his side by dropping the seemingly routine chance.

Then just before tea struggling left-arm quick Mitchell Johnson thought he had Bopara, on 19, caught pulling at mid-on by Nathan Hauritz, fielding following a first innings finger dislocation.

Bopara stood his ground, the decision was referred to the third umpire and, with replays inconclusive, he was allowed to continue his innings.

At lunch, England were 57 without loss after captain Andrew Strauss had opted not to enforce the follow-on.

Strauss, who made 161 in the first innings, was 24 not out and fellow left-hander Alastair Cook, out for 95 first time around, unbeaten on 32 after putting on 196 with his captain on Thursday.

But off-spinner Hauritz, whose selection for this was much derided in Australia, brought his side back into the match with two wickets for no runs in eight balls.

Hauritz struck with his first ball after lunch when Cook was lbw.

And he then removed Strauss for 32 with a well flighted, turning delivery that took the edge on its way to Michael Clarke at first slip.

England were now 74 for two, with Strauss seemingly surrendering England's early advantage by not making Australia bat again.

And they could easily have lost two wickets soon after Strauss's exit.

Pietersen, on 10, was in the process of swerving an lbw appeal from swing bowler Ben Hilfenhaus when he scampered down the pitch.

The ball ballooned to Ponting in the slips and his quick-thinking shy at the

SEE PAGE 18 COL 2



England skipper Andrew Strauss pulls one on the third day of the second Ashes Test against Australia at Lord's yesterday.

Jimmy gets royal seal

Cricket

AFP, London

England quick James Anderson got a royal endorsement of his efforts as he played a key role in making Australia struggle during the second Ashes Test here at Lord's on Friday.

Anderson made 29 with the bat during a last-wicket stand of 47 that helped propel England to a first innings total of 425.

He then took two wickets before lunch, including the prize scalp of Australia captain Ricky Ponting for just two, on his way to Test-best figures against England's oldest foes of four wickets for 36 runs in 17 overs.

Australia at stumps had collapsed to 156 for eight, still needing another 70 runs to avoid the follow-on at a ground where they last lost a Test in 1934.

At lunch the teams lined up in front of the Pavilion to be presented to Queen Elizabeth II, monarch of both Britain and Australia, and her husband, Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh.

Anderson said that while the Queen did not say anything to him the Duke, a former president of Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC), which owns Lord's, had stopped for a word.

"I got a well done from Philip, he mentioned I'd had a good morning," the modest Anderson told reporters.

Reflecting on the state of the game, he said: "It's been a good couple of days for us as a team."

"After Cardiff [where Australia piled up 674 for six declared], we had a long chat, we knew we hadn't bowled well enough but we executed our plans better today," Anderson, 26, explained.

Anderson, who bats left-handed but bowls right, said getting to 400, when England had been 378 for nine, was a significant milestone for the team.

"It gave us some extra momentum and confidence. I felt good with the bat, I've been working hard and it's starting to pay off a little bit."

"Everyone wanted to start afresh [after Cardiff]. We got out of jail a little bit and we didn't want to waste that."

Several Australia batsmen got out trying to pull. Anderson said that in some cases there had been a deliberate plan but in others England had frustrated the batsmen into making an error.

"For a couple of their guys we decided on the short ball, for a couple we bowled tight. Marcus North [out for no run], we dried him up for runs."

Ponting had made a superb 150 in Cardiff but here Anderson exploited his tendency to

SEE PAGE 18 COL 3