



PHOTO: STAR

Bangladesh opener Tamim Iqbal is in full swing on way to hammering a rapidfire 85 on the first day of the second Test against England at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday.

Feni players injured in road mishap

SPORTS REPORTER

At least eight players of the Feni Soccer Club suffered injuries while their bus collided with a microbus in Comilla yesterday.

The players were on way to Dhaka to play their Bangladesh League match against Brothers Union at the Kamalapur Stadium today at 3pm.

After primary treatment in a local hospital the players reached Dhaka and trained in the afternoon.

"The incident took place in the afternoon."

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SuperSport5

Bangladesh v England
Second Test, Day Two
Live from 9:30am

SuperSport2

Indian Premier League
Deccan Chargers v Delhi
Daredevils

Live from 4:30pm

Chennai Super Kings v Kings
XI Punjab

Live from 8:30pm

New Zealand v Australia
First Test, Day Four

Live from 3:30am (Monday)

SuperSport3

English Premiership
Man United v Liverpool

Live from 7:30pm

Blackburn v Chelsea
Live from 10:00pm

Primera Liga

Zaragoza v Barcelona
Live from 2:00am (Monday)



Bangladesh v England
Second Test, Day Two
Time: 9:30am

Venue: Sher-e-Bangla National
Cricket Stadium

Bangladesh League
Brothers Union v Feni Soccer
Club

Time: 5:00pm

Venue: Kamalapur Stadium

'It was one-day batting'

BISHWAJIT ROY



A total of 330 runs on the board at the end of the first day's play in the second and final Test might not look too bad but still there are reasons to be dissatisfied with the batting of the home team at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday.

The Tigers lost eight wickets which were too many for comfort on an easy wicket and worst of all was as many as five batsmen gifted their wicket after making good starts. Except wicketkeeper-batsman Mushfiqur Rahim, all gave away their wickets only to lose the momentum that was set by dashing opener Tamim Iqbal after his skipper Shakib Al Hasan rightly decided to bat.

It seemed that the Bangladesh batsmen were in chase of some target instead of spending time in the middle with Tamim, Junaed Siddiqui, Mahmudullah Riyad and the captain himself committing the crime of throwing their wickets away after having good start.

Tamim might be the hero of the day for his blazing 85 but he also admitted that it was like 'one-day style' batting.

"We are disappointed because we lost too many wickets in the end. You can say it's a good total but for a one-day game. I must say our batting today didn't go well for a longer version game," admitted the left-hander who

put the English bowlers to the sword on his 21st birthday.

"We could have finished the day on top if we had three more wickets in hand. Only one big innings could change the whole scenario. In Test cricket a score of 30 or 40 is insubstantial rather you have to make it big when you get a start. We could have got 400 runs if one batsman could have scored a hundred and two other guys converted their innings to 70 or 80 runs," explained Tamim, who missed a great chance to become the fifth batsman to score a hundred before lunch on the first day of a Test match.

The Chittagonian however defended his aggressive style of batting.

"I was feeling good from the very first delivery and you know every batsman has his own style of batting. I worked with different styles and in the end I have decided to go with my natural batting. And this was the best way. Sometimes I look fantastic and sometimes it is ugly," he said.

Was he a little bit bogged down after reaching 60?

Tamim put aside the notion by saying that it was because there were five fielders outside the ring that forced him to concentrate on singles.

Tamim also quashed the notion that the inability of Junaed Siddiqui to rotate the strike compelled him to resort to a false shot.

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MIRPUR MASALA

SPORTS REPORTER

England were at the receiving end of three Australians scoring a first day century before lunch. Don Bradman made it in Leeds in 1930 when he reached perfection with his 334. Before the Don, Victor Trumper and Charlie Macartney took the English apart in 1902 and 1926 respectively. So when Tamim Iqbal was dismissed for 85 here in Dhaka, some Englishmen must have heaved a sigh of relief.

The only century before lunch that wasn't against England was against New Zealand. It was in 1976 and the batsman was Pakistan great Majid Khan.

Tamim had the chance to emulate such greatness so early in his career but with him only turning 21 yesterday and having made a name for himself with these blazing starts, could he try it again?

ATHERTON INSPIRES TREDWELL

James Tredwell became the 648th Test player for England and as is the custom these days, a senior teammate or a former player presents the debutant with the much coveted Test cap before the start of play.

It was no different for the lanky off-spinner who received his cap from former England captain Michael Atherton, here on duty as a commentator and chief cricket correspondent of the Times.

"It was a proud moment for me to receive it from him (Michael Atherton) and his anecdotal speech made me even prouder," said Tredwell in the end-of-day press conference yesterday.

The story goes that how a young Atherton's father had asked the future England batsman to watch the cricket and it was David Gower who was batting. Several years later, it was Gower who presented him with the Test cap in 1989.

THE BEST OF BCB?

The press box yesterday was abuzz with the previous night's news of Rokibul Hasan's punishment by the Bangladesh Cricket Board.

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INDIAN PREMIER LEAGUE

Mumbai fall to Bangalore

STAR SPORTS DESK

Jacques Kallis continued his rich vein of form scoring an unbeaten 62 to lead Royal Challengers Bangalore to an easy seven wicket victory over Mumbai Indians in the Indian Premier League at the Brabourne Stadium in Mumbai yesterday. Kallis shared 85 runs opening stand with Pandey, who scored a rapid 40 to put Bangalore on their way.

Earlier tight bowling from Dale Steyn and Vinay Kumar restricted Mumbai to 151 runs. Steyn and Kumar each claimed three wickets to put the brakes on Mumbai as top scorers Tendulkar and Tiwary only managed 25 runs each.

SCORES IN BRIEF

MUMBAI INDIANS: 151 for 9 in 20 overs (Tendulkar 25, Tiwary 25, Sathish 24, Zaheer Khan 23 not out; Steyn 3 for 26, Vinay Kumar 3 for 25)

ROYAL CHALLENGERS BANGALORE: 155 for 3 in 19.1 overs (Kallis 62 not out, Pandey 40, Uthappa 23; Zaheer Khan 1 for 18)

Result: Bangalore win by seven wickets.

Tigers subside after Tamim surge

MOHAMMAD ISAM



Bangladesh batsmen flattered to deceive as they staggered along on the first day of the second Test match against England at the Sher-e-Bangla Stadium in Mirpur yesterday.

After Tamim Iqbal provided an aggressive start, the Tigers lost their way late in the first session through quick wickets before three midsize partnerships in the next two made sure of some respectability as they ended the day on 330 for eight.

It was a day when the Tigers oscillated between significance and mediocrity on a placid wicket. While they did better than the first innings of the first Test in Chittagong and had a rare full batting day, it did not feel as though the Tigers dictated terms except when Tamim was batting.

The left-hander made 85 imperious runs and while the knock was typical of the Chittagonian, he could have become only the fifth man in cricket history to score a Test century before lunch on the first day.

Tamim was just 15 runs away from joining the elite company of the great Australians Don Bradman, Victor Trumper, Charlie Macartney and

Pakistan's Majid Khan, but the left-hander miscued a sweep off debutant off-spinner James Tredwell a few overs after the first drinks interval. Replays suggested that it was an inconclusive decision as Matt Prior took a tumbling catch, and the batsman latter said that he was 'confused' by his dismissal.

It could have been the perfect birthday gift for Tamim, who was dropped on seven by Paul Collingwood at slip and on 35 by England captain Alistair Cook at mid-on. But the southpaw who turned 21 on Saturday had to be satisfied with another blazing effort that had the visitors post five fielders on the fence as early as the first hour of play.

He was comfortable against the pace of Stuart Broad, Tim Bresnan and Steven Finn flaying them for boundaries but was particularly harsh on England's main bowler Graeme Swann.

In the off-spinner's third over, Tamim smashed 19 runs with three boundaries and a superb straight six over long-on. Tamim hit 13 boundaries and that six in his 71-ball knock.

But the moment he left, the Tigers got on their old routine of losing wickets on the trot after a good partnership. Test

debutant Jahirul Islam was sawn off for a duck by Swann. Junaed Siddiqui, who added 66 for the second wicket with Tamim, fell leg-before to the same bowler for 39, but not before he added another 45 with Mahmudullah Riyad.

Riyad played some sparkling shots in his 106-ball 59 that had nine boundaries but once again, like Tamim and Junaed, the stylish right-hander fell away after making a start, edging one to gully off Finn.

Another batsman who was also guilty of throwing it away after a good start was captain Shakib Al Hasan. The southpaw could not resist another sweep shot but fell leg-before to Tredwell for 49.

Apart from Tredwell's two big scalps, the England bowlers recovered considerably with Swann picked up three in all while one each went to the pacemen.

Bangladesh could have fell to an even deeper hole had Mushfiqur Rahim and Nayeem Islam not added 47 for the seventh wicket. The in-form wicketkeeper-batsman got a good one from Bresnan in the third over with the second new ball but what somehow typified the Bangladesh effort was Abdur Razzak's

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BCB launches NCL T20

SPORTS REPORTER

With a target to tune up the national cricketers for the forthcoming Twenty20 World Championship in West Indies, Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) are all set to launch the first-ever National Cricket League T20 competition from April 11 to 20.

BCB has signed a deal with ATN Records to take care of the marketing aspect of the venture.

Six franchises will own the six divisional teams and Rubaba Dowla, consultant of ATN Records, informed at a press conference yesterday that some corporate houses have already shown their interest to own the franchises.

"I hope we can inform about the franchises on March 29. The prize money will be US\$100,000 for the champions while the runners-up team will receive US\$50,000 and there will also be other lucrative prizes," said Rubaba adding that they will take all steps to make the tournament a grand success.

"There would be no auction for the first tournament but we will try to bring the divisional teams under franchises for the longer-version tournament from next season. Salary would be restricted for this first tournament and the players will be financially benefited," said Mahbul Anam, BCB's senior vice-president.

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Tredwell does well

ATIQUE ANAM



Kent off-spinner James Tredwell is a veteran when it comes to playing county cricket. But he's only on the go in his international career. At the age of 28, he would have been thought to be an oldie for Bangladesh standards. But the man who earned his Test cap for England at the Sher-e-Bangla Stadium yesterday, was no less excited than an 18-year-old. Well he's got every reason to be excited after completing a successful day in the middle with two of the most important scalps of the opposition.

Tredwell bowled twenty-nine overs on the day and gave away 85 runs for the two most demanding wickets of Tamim Iqbal and Shakib Al Hasan as the hosts ended the day on 330 for

eight. The off-spinner was delighted with his day's work.

"I was reasonably happy with my performance. I bowled a few loose balls in the middle of my spell, but other than that the ball came out nicely and I caused a few problems," said Tredwell adding that he was elated when he heard of his call-up.

"I heard [I'd been selected] after training yesterday [Friday] and it was a very proud moment for me. I did think I was in with a decent chance in the last game but that wasn't to be, but fortunately I got the nod this time."

Tredwell was introduced into the attack in the 17th over before which Bangladesh were riding a Tamim hurricane at more than seven-runs-an-over, a rate that one would normally associate with Twenty20 cricket. Tamim was

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PHOTO: AFP

Debutant England spinner James Tredwell goes about his business on the first day of the second Test against England at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday.

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