

BD-PAK SCOREBOARD

Final scoreboard on the fourth day of the first Test between Bangladesh and Pakistan at the Zohur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium in Chittagong on Monday. BANGLADESH: First innings 135... PAKISTAN: First innings 594 for 5 declared... Result: Pakistan won by an innings and 275 runs.



TOP DOUG: Doug Bracewell (L) is over the moon after taking the final Australian wicket as the unbeaten centurion David Warner looks on during New Zealand's win on the fourth day of the second Test match at the Bellerive Oval in Hobart yesterday.

Kiwis' first in 26 yrs



AFP, Hobart

Seamer Doug Bracewell bowled New Zealand to a sensational seven-run victory over Australia in the second Test in Hobart on Monday for the Kiwis' first win in Australia for 26 years.

The Black Caps captured eight wickets for 74 runs for a dramatic victory midway through the fourth day of an extraordinary Test match at Bellerive Oval.

Bracewell finished with 6-40 off 16.4 overs in a match-winning performance to stun the Australians, who appeared on track for victory at 159 for two chasing 241 runs to win.

But the Australians folded spectacularly and David Warner's unbeaten maiden Test century went in vain as wickets tumbled around him and Nathan Lyon was bowled by Bracewell in the 64th over to claim victory.

It was the Black Caps' first victory in Australia since 1985 as they tied the two-Test series after comprehensively losing the first Gabba Test by nine wickets.

Bracewell turned the match around with the wickets of Ricky Ponting (16), Michael Clarke (0), Michael Hussey (0), James Pattinson (4), Mitchell Starc

(0) and Lyon (9). Clarke said his team were proving too inconsistent with their third defeat in eight Tests under his captaincy.

Warner carried his bat to finish unbeaten on 123 off 170 balls with 14 boundaries to cement his Test position after fellow opener Phillip Hughes was out again cheaply.

Warner surprisingly was preferred to Bracewell as official man-of-the-match in a television viewers' poll.

Wickets continued to fall around Warner with Brad Haddin snapped up by Ross Taylor in the slips off Tim Southee and Peter Siddle taken at third slip off Southee for two.

Bracewell removed Pattinson and Starc within three balls to have the Black Caps one wicket away from victory after Australia had lost seven wickets for 40.

Lyon survived two tense reviews for lbw as Warner went after the runs against a spreadeagled field before Bracewell finished the game when he bowled Lyon.

Ponting's possible final Test innings in his home state finished in a whimper after he was given a standing ovation to the wicket.

Test cricket's third-highest runs scorer spooned a catch to cover after playing back to Bracewell and was

out for 16 after scoring just five in the first innings.

Clarke was caught at slip by Taylor and Hussey was out first ball lbw after a review went in bowler Bracewell's favour.

Hughes' Test future again looked uncertain after he was out in the day's second over with no addition to his overnight score of 20.

It was the fourth straight time Hughes was caught by Martin Guptill in the slips off Chris Martin's bowling in the series.

His latest batting failure -- 41 in four innings against the Kiwis -- will intensify the pressure on his spot ahead of the Test series with India, starting at the Melbourne Cricket Ground on Boxing Day.

While Hughes' technical deficiencies outside offstump continued to hound him, Warner built a strong case for his retention, possibly partnering Shane Watson against India.

Usman Khawaja again failed to go on after getting a start and went to drive Trent Boult only to give an edge to Taylor at first slip. Khawaja made 23 off 48 balls.

SCOREBOARD NEW ZEALAND: First innings 150 (Brownlie 56; Pattinson 5-51, Siddle 3-42) AUSTRALIA: First innings 136 (Siddle 36; Bracewell 3-20, Boult 3-29, Martin 3-46)

NEW ZEALAND: Second innings 226 (Taylor 56; Lyon 3-25, Pattinson 3-54, Siddle 3-66)

AUSTRALIA: Second innings (overnight 72-0) Hughes c Guptill b Martin 20 Warner not out 123

Khawaja c Taylor b Boult 23 Ponting c Southee b Bracewell 16

Clarke c Taylor b Bracewell 0 Hussey lbw b Bracewell 0

Haddin c Taylor b Southee 15 Siddle c Ryder b Southee 2

Pattinson c Guptill b Bracewell 4 Starc b Bracewell 0

Lyon b Bracewell 9 Extras: (b-3, lb-18) 21

Total: (All out in 63.4 overs) 233 Fall of wickets: 1-72, 2-122, 3-159, 4-159, 5-159, 6-192, 7-194, 8-199, 9-199

Bowler O M R W Gul 13 2 45 0 Cheema 7.3 1 40 2

Hafeez 7 2 21 1 Ajmal 25 7 74 2 Rehman 30 7 88 4

Result: New Zealand won by 7 runs and 2-

Div I cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

Eskaton beat BKSP by 5 wickets at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium in their First Division Cricket League clash yesterday.

Winning the toss, BKSP decided to bat first but were bowled out for 145 runs in 42.5 overs. Mahfuz and Faisal took three wickets a piece for Eskaton, doing the bulk of the damage. In reply, Eskaton reached their target in 34.5 overs with Kamran top-scoring with 81.

In the other games Baridhara Dazzlers won by four wickets against Dhaka Wanderers at BKSP-2, Azad Sporting Club won by 34 runs against City Club at BKSP-3 and Dhaka Mariner Young's Club won by 17 runs against Motijheel T&T at the City Club Ground.



Abahani striker Russel Mahmud Jimmy (2nd from R) skips past a few Bangladesh Navy players during their match of the UCB Victory Day Hockey Competition at the Maulana Bhasani Hockey Stadium yesterday.

35th innings defeat

FROM PAGE 16 out for 135 runs. That almost confirmed the fate of the match but the second innings is in no way any consolation for their slightly improved batting. The batsmen continued in their senseless vein against the versatile Pakistan bowling attack on the flat track.

Debutant Nazimuddin however deserved some praise for his fighting 78 that came after batting more than four years and batting out 186 balls. But still the way the right-hander lost his composure after making his fifty simply go with the almost incurable problem of

the Bangladeshi batsmen. Starting the day on 41, the local man looked uncomfortable from the very beginning of the day and was beaten several times but didn't lose patience and determination as he trudged towards the fifty. But suddenly Nazimuddin went for the big shots which also included two sixes. He paid the obvious price, offering a catch to Saeed Ajmal at mid-off off left-arm spinner Abdur Rehman, who was the most successful bowler with 4-88.

Earlier Shakib Al Hasan was the first victim of the day after he was trapped in front

by Rehman but before that, the left-hander completed his ninth Test fifty while captain Mushfiqur Rahim also got back among the runs with an 88-ball 49.

The efforts from Nazimuddin, Shakib and Mushfiqur helped Bangladesh make a somewhat healthy total but that was not good enough to stop the soul-searching about the team's recent helplessness in the five-day game.

But first, the cricket board must be accountable for the empty cellar that is undermining the privilege of playing Test cricket.

Time is really

FROM PAGE 16 seniors or juniors, we are enjoying ourselves," he added.

Regarding Bangladesh's poor batting, he said: "I think after the one-day series, they were under huge pressure for not being able to score runs which helped us in the Test match. In the first innings they got out easily and once you do that on a flat track, it is difficult to make the comeback."

There had been a lot of talk about his decision to bowl first on the batting paradise though it didn't mean anything following Bangladesh's dismissal for 135 runs in the first innings. "We managed to exploit the wicket with our bowlers in the first two sessions of the first day. For the last two years we have been doing this and so far we have been able to take good advantage of it.

"Once we have the target in our mind the bowlers and the batsmen together performed really well. So if we ever found even a little advantage for the bowlers, we choose to bowl first," he explained.

V-DAY HOCKEY Abahani win big

SPORTS REPORTER

Newcomers Abahani announced their title credentials with 5-1 win over Bangladesh Navy on the opening day UCB Victory Day Hockey Competition at the Maulana Bhasani Hockey Stadium yesterday.

Despite going a goal down in the eight minute, Abahani came back as national striker Asaduzzaman Chandan equalised the margin in the 14th minute. The first half ended 1-1, before Abahani piled on the pressure and scored four more goals in the last 10 minutes of the match. Chandan grabbed two while his national team partners Rassel Mahmud, Pushkor Khisha and Iqbal Nadir Prince scored one each.

In the keenly contested opening match, Army defeated Air Force by a solitary goal, courtesy of an eighth-minute strike from Rabbi Hossain.

The second match was much of a one-sided affair as BKSP routed Bangladesh Police by 4-0 goals. Salehin Rabbi scored twice while Joy Chakrabarty and Anik Mahmud scored one goal apiece.

Earlier, Zahid Ahsan Russel MP, Chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee for Youth and Sports inaugurated the event.

LOCAL snippets

GMs' winning start

SPORTS REPORTER

GM Niaz Murshed, GM Ziaur Rahman and GM Rifat Bin Sattar won their respective matches while FIDE Master Minhazuddin Ahmed Sagar lost his match in the first round of the 37th Walton National Chess Competition at the Bangladesh Olympic Association media room yesterday.

Niaz beat Golam Mostafa, Zia beat Sohel Chowdhury and Rifat beat Abu Sufian Shakil in this round. However, IM norm aspirant Sagar lost his board to Monir Hossain. The second round matches will take place today.

Narail champs in national rugby

Narail emerged champions in the Kaler Kantho National Rugby Competition beating Dhaka 29-12 in the final at the Birshreshtha Mostafa Kamal Stadium in Kamalapur yesterday.

Earlier, Narail defeated Comilla 17-0 while Dhaka beat Faridpur 5-0 in the semifinals to book their place in the final.

National Sports Council secretary Shafiq Anwar distributed the prizes among the winners after the final.

V-Day volleyball

KFC Pizza Hut Victory Day Volleyball Tournament starts at the Volleyball Stadium in the city today. Four teams will participate in the tournament that will end on December 15. The participating teams are: national league champions Army, runners-up Air Force, Dhaka premier league champions Titas Club and Border Guard Bangladesh.

V-Day kabaddi

The Victory Day Kabaddi Competition will begin tomorrow at the Kabaddi Stadium in the city.

Bangladesh Olympic Association secretary general Kutubuddin Ahmed is expected to inaugurate the three-day meet as chief guest, to be patronised by Ministry of Liberation War Affairs.

Nothing wrong

FROM PAGE 16

The Bangladesh skipper also said that there were some positives in their performance and they can take this to the second and final Test against the visitors to be held at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium from December 17.

"Nazim bhai played well in the match. We had an expectation of him and he fulfilled it. We can take inspiration from him. Our bowling was also not bad though we dropped some catches which helped some of the Pakistani batsmen to play big innings," he said. "We actually got out of the match when we lost five wickets in the first session of the first day. But still Nasir and Shakib batted well in the first innings while Nazimuddin and Shakib played good knocks in the second which was the positives for us."

Nazimuddin admitted that scoring in the National Cricket League, the lone first-class competition in the country, helped the Chittagonian to make an impressive debut in the Test cricket. "My first-class experience helped me to bat well in the match. I'm happy with my performance in the first Test match. I was a little bit nervous but I tried to stay at the crease. After fifty, I was a bit excited otherwise I could have prolonged my innings," said a delighted Nazimuddin.

Shockingly though, he was not fully disappointed for not making the a hundred on debut.

We can beat Aussies: MS



AFP, Chennai

India can beat Michael Clarke's struggling team and win their first Test series in Australia if they play to their potential, skipper Mahendra Singh Dhoni said Monday.

Dhoni's comments came on the day when Clarke's Australians lost the second Test by seven runs against New Zealand in Hobart, their first loss against the Kiwis at home in 26 years.

The defeat was also Australia's third in eight Tests under Clarke's captaincy.

India will be playing their first away Test series since losing all four matches in England in July-August that cost Dhoni's men their number one Test ranking.

Dhoni hoped the players will remain fit for the Australia series, unlike in England when key stars like Zaheer Khan, Virender Sehwag and Harbhajan Singh were sidelined.

Zaheer and Sehwag are back for the tour, while Harbhajan was axed due to poor form.

The first batch of players -- Rahul Dravid, Sachin Tendulkar, Venkatesai Laxman, Ishant Sharma, Pragyan Ojha, Umesh Yadav and Wriddhiman Saha -- is already in Australia preparing for the tour.

The remaining players in the 17-man squad, including Dhoni, are due to leave early Tuesday.

India open the three-month tour on December 15, with two practice matches in Canberra ahead of the first Test starting at the Melbourne Cricket Ground on December 26.

The remaining Tests will be played in Sydney, Perth and Adelaide.

The Tests will be followed by two Twenty20 internationals, before Sri Lanka join in for a one-day tri-series from February 5.

SQUAD

Mahendra Singh Dhoni (captain), Virender Sehwag (vice-captain), Gautam Gambhir, Rahul Dravid, Sachin Tendulkar, Venkatesai Laxman, Virat Kohli, Rohit Sharma, Ajinkya Rahane, Wriddhiman Saha, Ravichandran Ashwin, Pragyan Ojha, Zaheer Khan, Ishant Sharma, Umesh Yadav, Vinay Kumar, Abhimanyu Mithun. Coach: Duncan Fletcher.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across, Down, and Cryptiquip. Includes a solution time of 21 mins and a grid for the solution.

Cryptiquip puzzle grid with numbers 1-51 indicating starting positions for words.

CRYPTOQUIP PY QRF AFVB JRCH NPHEHV RY AHXHJSQ BDTB TSH DTWLPWL, P XRFJO VTQ QRF DTCH T NHWOTWB NHWEDTWB. Yesterday's Cryptiquip: A WISH SOMEBODY COULD OFFER TO SURGEONS WIELDING GRASPING TOOLS: "MAY THE FORCE BE WITH YOU!" Today's Cryptiquip Clue: N equals P