



An action from yesterday's Plan Metropolis Women's School Football Tournament match between Scholastica and Kakoli High School.  
PHOTO: BFFONLINE

# Teams tie third ODI

## Cricket

AFP, Kingstown

A thrilling third one-day international between West Indies and Australia at Arnos Vale Tuesday ended in a tie after Darren Sammy was run out with the Windies needing just one run from the last three balls to win. Sammy had hit a boundary off the previous delivery to take West Indies to 220 with one wicket remaining, but a horrible mix-up with Kemar Roach led to Sammy being run out by Brett Lee as the Australians celebrated securing a rare tie. But the Windies had reason

to be happy too, having earlier appeared up against it at 78 for five, and the five-match series remains finely poised at one win apiece with the final two games to come in St Lucia on Friday and Sunday. "I think we believed we could beat them," said Sammy at the end of a match watched by a packed crowd on a national holiday in Saint Vincent. "We should have won today. Everyone played their part right down to the number 11. "The discussion [with Roach ahead of the last ball] was that we were looking to run. I won't lay blame on anyone, it's just a shame we

couldn't see out the win. "The way we came back to get 220 was a great effort. The team believe we can beat Australia, and we will look to win the next two games. "The pitch here was not conducive for stroke play but we do need to play some consistent cricket." Australia captain Shane Watson, the tourists' leading bowler with figures of three for 30, was delighted his team managed to avoid a second defeat here in the space of three days but admitted that improvements must be made before Friday's next match. "Little things here and there could have been improved," he said.

## SCOREBOARD

AUSTRALIA					
Watson run out		10			
Warner c Pollard b Sammy		37			
Wade b Narine		2			
Bailey c Dwayne Bravo b Samuels		59			
M Hussey st Baugh b Samuels		67			
D Hussey b Roach		15			
Christian lbw b Narine		12			
Lee b Roach		0			
McKay c Baugh b Narine		0			
Doherty run out		0			
Lyon not out		4			
Extras: (b-4, lb-6, w-3, nb-1)		14			
Total: (All out in 49.5 overs)		220			
Fall of wickets: 1-34, 2-38, 3-58, 4-170, 5-202, 6-202, 7-203, 8-208, 9-208					
WEST INDIES					
Powell st Wade b Doherty		12			
Charles c Christian b Watson		45			
Samuels lbw b Watson		2			
Darren c Bailey b Watson		0			
Dwayne c Wade b Doherty		13			
Pollard c Doherty b Lyon		36			
Baugh c Christian b McKay		33			
Russell c Wade b McKay		37			
Sammy run out		10			
Narine c D Hussey b Lee		9			
Roach not out		9			
Extras: (b-1, lb-5, w-6, nb-1)		13			
Total: (All out in 49.4 overs)		220			
Fall of wickets: 1-27, 2-52, 3-52, 4-72, 5-78, 6-117, 7-181, 8-190, 9-204					
Bowler		O	M	R	W
Roach	10	0	42	2	
Dwayne	8	1	30	0	
Narine	9.5	1	32	3	
Sammy	5	0	27	1	
Russell	5	0	28	0	
Samuels	9	0	39	2	
Pollard	3	0	12	0	

## Recalling

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last hurdle. In 1994, they got through after beating Sri Lanka A easily and managing a one-run win over a powerful India A side, all at the Bangabandhu National Stadium. Akram Khan, in his first tournament as captain, oversaw the two wins that ensured the place in the final, where they lost to the second string Indian side. "It was almost the same scenario. We had to win the last league game to play in the final and we beat India A by just one run," Akram said yesterday. "Cricket wasn't popular back then but on the day of the final, it was a full Bangabandhu National Stadium. Around 40,000 people were inside the ground and another 40,000 was probably outside. I had never before seen so many people at a cricket ground till then." Akram was also in charge when the team qualified to the final of the 1997 ICC Trophy, though they had already made it to the 1999 World Cup after beating Scotland in the semi-final. "It was still a tense affair," he said. "We wanted to fight for the ODI and Test status and the people back home were expecting a win."

"I am very lucky to be part of all three occasions," said the man who is now the chief selector. Bangladesh were the underdog in that final against Kenya (similarly against India A in 1994) and they are still the underdog today. But Akram believed that teamwork will once again help the Tigers as it did in the previous two finals. "There were no extraordinary players back then so it was all down to the team doing well together. It is still teamwork but we have some world-class cricketers. "I have always said that a player should play for the country and for the team, not for themselves, especially in the shorter formats. I want to establish some players and I am sure good things will happen in the long-run," he said.

## Mashrafe

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bowler, one must remember. He is a very incisive bowler and gives the team a good start," added Imrul. Man's cricket, as Imrul has said, shouldn't be forgotten but the dressing-room these days is about much more than a player can bring to the field. For Mashrafe, his pragmatism and ability to connect with everyone is involuntary, he can't help it.

# LOCAL snippets

## SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh won two silver medals in Taekwondo event of the 1st South Asian Army Sports Meet in Nepal recently, said a press release yesterday. Anwar Hossain lost to a Nepalese opponent 5-7 to settle for a silver in the 68kg category while Arman Hossain lost to an Indian opponent 5-6 to finish second in the 74kg category. The meet was held in Kathmandu from March 9 to 14 with eight South Asian nations taking part in it.

## 2nd Div Football

Bangladesh Boys Club registered a 1-0 win over East End Club in the Destiny Group 2nd Division Football League at the Birshreshtha Shaheed Mostafa Kamal Stadium yesterday. Mojahidur Ahmed struck the decisive goal in the 54th minute.

## Women's Football

Scholastica School and Dhanmondi Kamrunnessa Govt High School won their respective matches in the Plan Metropolis Women's School Football Tournament at the Sultana Kamal Women's Sports Complex ground yesterday. Scholastica thrashed Kakoli High School 5-0 while Dhanmondi Kamrunnessa School blanked Lalmatia Girls' High School 2-0.

## Independence Cup Basketball

Bangladesh Krira Shikkha Protishthan (BKSP) registered a thrilling 48-47 win over Bangladesh Police in the opening match of the Citycell Independence Cup Basketball Tournament at the Dhammondi Basketball Gymnasium yesterday. Bangladesh Police led the first half by 21-13 points but BKSP staged a fightback in the second half to bounce back and defeat Bangladesh Police. Mamun and Abir scored 13 and 10 points for BKSP while Harun and Shahinur were the notable scorers for Police, casing 15 and 10 points respectively.

## School Football

Dighinala Shantipur High School emerged Khagrachori district champions in the National School Football Islami Bank Tournament with a 4-3 win over Matiranga Pilot High School in the final yesterday. The match rolled into the shootout after the regulation time produced a goalless draw. EJMA Majid High School and Narpati High School became upazila champions to move into the district-level competition. EJMA Majid School emerged Debidhar upazila champions after getting a walkover while Narpati High School defeated Gobindapur High School 1-0 to clinch Laksam upazila title.

## Sohel wins American Cup Golf

Shakhawat Hossain Sohel of BTI (Building Technology & Ideas Ltd) emerged champion in the American Cup Golf (Pro-AM) Tournament which concluded at the Kurmitola Golf Club yesterday. The professional golfer aggregated seven-under-par 209 over three rounds to beat nearest contestant Milon Ahmed by a single stroke. Amateur golfer Dulal Hossain secured third position in the event where over thirty professional and amateur golfers of the country took part.

## Can Tigers

FROM PAGE 16 target was to consistently improve in every match and fight. If you play consistently well against big teams then you will be able to win matches regularly. That is what is happening and now the self-belief is very good," continued the little man. After the way they played in the league matches, Bangladesh deserved to be in the final but Mushfiqur believe that his boys will justify it also in the final against the formidable Pakistan. "When you reach the final of a tournament by winning against the top teams and play pretty consistently, I don't think it's an upset. It was a well-planned and well-executed process. The boys are really very confident to go about the final match. As you said we have nothing to lose and we have everything to gain. Hopefully we will give our hundred per cent and win the match," said Mushfiqur. The secret of the success in this tournament so far is simple -- not just one or two are performing which used to happen in the past -- the team is playing as a unit where everybody do their duty and another thing is that the Tigers overcame mental barriers by winning two close matches. The confidence of the whole team lifts when they win matches like that and Tigers just need to carry on these things in the final.

# Jimmy runs riot over Police

## SPORTS REPORTER

Striker Rasel Mahmud Jimmy slotted double a hat-trick to power star-studded Mohammedan Sporting Club to a massive 8-0 win over Bangladesh Police in the opening fixture of the Dhaka Bank Independence Cup Hockey Tournament at the Maulana Bhasani Hockey Stadium yesterday. However, despite the big-margin victory, the big-spending Mohammedan hardly impressed as a unit. Apart from Jimmy's individual performance, there was no remarkable display from the other players against a side who are technically far inferior. Mohammedan coach Imam Hossain Shanta said his charges took to field without any preparation due to the unavailability of players for the national camp. The Black and Whites roped in Jimmy and penalty corner specialist Mamunur Rahman Chayan for Tk 6.5 lakh each but Chayan frustrated converting only two out of six penalty corners. But Jimmy proved his price tag as he struck two hat-tricks, either side of the break. Jimmy gave Mohammedan the lead through a field goal on the third minute and doubled the lead on the 11th minute and completed his first treble from a penalty corner two minutes later after Chayan squandered two successive penalty corners. Chayan finally found the back of the net from a penalty corner on the 28th minute as Mohammedan went for breather with a comfortable 4-0 lead. After resumption, Jimmy struck three more field goals on the 39th, 46th and 50th minutes before Chayan completed the rout converting a penalty corner in the 55th minute.

FROM PAGE 16 this tournament but what he already got from his senior colleagues will help him immensely to represent the new Bangladesh team. "I am enjoying each and every moments whatever it was from the dugout or in the dressing room, the experience has been fantastic. I feel proud to be a part of the team whether I'm playing or not," said an excited Anamul, who caught many eyes after the way he ran to ground during the match. This action simply epitomized the spirit of the Bangladesh team in the region's biggest cricket meet. "What I feel that it's just a beginning of new era. Each and everybody look confident and everybody encouraging each other which I think is the reason behind the success. "Reaching the final was a big achievement for our country's cricket but still everybody are determined to carry on the good form in the final," he added. The young man was as involved with the matches as he even thought of a newspaper headline in his mind which read, "The arrival of Bijoy (his nickname) brings Bijoy (victory) for the country".

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## Bijoy talks

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# Don't pressurise Kohli

## Cricket

PTI, Mumbai

Virat Kohli is being hailed as one of cricket's finest upcoming batsmen and senior India player Sachin Tendulkar agrees but he does not want the youngster to be put under too much pressure just at the beginning of what seems to be a promising career. "He is a very good player. He is a brilliant player. He has done well but all I can say is don't put pressure on him. Let him play," said Tendulkar. Kohli proved his batting credentials with two dominant performances. He led India's successful run chase in Australia, surpassing the target of 321 inside 37 overs with a blistering 86-ball 133 and again on Sunday, when India produced their highest-ever run chase to eclipse a daunting 330-run victory target against Pakistan with the middle-order batsman again at the forefront with a magnificent 183. Tendulkar, who returned from Dhaka on Wednesday after India's exit from the Asia Cup, scored his much-awaited 100th ton during the tournament and said it was not easy for him to achieve the milestone despite scoring 99 centuries. "The pressure is off. It was a difficult phase and all of us had to wait for it for a long time.

But it has made everyone realise, including me, that even after scoring 99 hundreds, it is not easy to score another one," said Sachin. On India's exit from the Asia Cup, Tendulkar said: "We go out to win every match and sometimes it's not possible to win every match and sometimes the opposition plays better cricket than you and that is what happened. I would not want to take the credit away from them [Bangladesh]. I think they played well." The batting great also praised his Mumbai counterpart Rohit Sharma for the crucial third-wicket partnership of 172 runs he put up with Kohli against arch-rivals Pakistan that helped the five-time continental champions chase down the huge target. "Rohit batted very well. He showed a lot of composure. The way he built partnership with Virat was very important for us and the partnership happened at a crucial time," said Tendulkar who would be turning 39 on April 24. Tendulkar's international season has ended with the Asia Cup campaign as he's not part of the squad led by Mahendra Singh Dhoni which will engage South Africa in a one-off T20 international in Johannesburg on March 30. "Looking forward to next [international] season. This season is over," said Tendulkar who would be leading Mumbai Indians in the Indian Premier League T20 competition commencing on April 4 in Chennai.

# Season defining game

## Third NZ-SA Test from Friday

## Cricket

CRICINFO, Wellington

The third Test match against South Africa will play a defining role in New Zealand's summer, Daniel Vettori, the New Zealand all-rounder, has said. After beating Australia in Hobart last year and dominating Zimbabwe in all three formats, New Zealand have had their victories put in perspective by a strong South Africa side. South Africa have already claimed the Twenty20 and ODI trophies and cannot lose the Test series after they beat New Zealand by nine wickets in Hamilton. Their dominance now threatens to overshadow the host's achievements from earlier in the season. "It's [the third Test] pretty influential on our summer," Vettori said. "If we can scrap back from

this Test match, it's been overall a very successful summer. If not, then I think we will remember it for that loss. It's really important, the boys understand that. They have done it in the past and this is an opportunity to try and do it again." Although New Zealand find themselves trailing going into the final Test, Vettori feels they have been able to go toe-to-toe with South Africa for the majority of the time. The difference has been the ability of South Africa's batsmen to stick around that little bit longer even when the bowler's have been on top. South Africa had three centuries in the Dunedin Test while New Zealand had none. South Africa's top scorer in Hamilton was AB de Villiers, who battled for his 83, New Zealand's was Kane Williamson, who looked well set for more than his eventual total of 77.

# Country geared

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in front of the television in the final overs, despite the time of the night. "I was at the office, watching the game with my colleagues. When Shakib got out, I thought it was all over so I was thinking of going home. "But somehow Nasir and Riyad got us to victory but you know, those first moments of that partnership were so nerve-wrecking," he said. The beauty of the Tigers' victory is that the public will have another occasion to celebrate and they are already making swift plans. "We will watch the match from 2:00pm tomorrow. Business will be slow but who knows when such a day will come again?" said Anwar, who works at a construction materials store in Mirpur. Another who made ambitious plans was Sohel, a bus conductor. "I will ask the bus owner to give me leave [when the match is on]. I bought a jersey and I will wear it when they play tomorrow," he said. And there is the SMS sent by South Point School to let parents know of the shortened class-timings for Thursday, "by 12 noon", so that nobody misses the Asia Cup final. It is the same with several other schools in the city. Those watching from home would request, plead and even threaten the power authorities so that electricity is not compromised with after 2:00pm. It promises to be that kind of a day, as was Tuesday; a day that nobody wants to forget.

# Stage set

FROM PAGE 16

Shakib and Tamim who are playing well. They are playing as a group. You're only a good team when many players perform when needed. When you're chasing a total, it is not only one player who should score 150, four or five players should contribute. Someone may score 40, someone else 50; that is how you win consistently. And they have done that in all three matches in this tournament. That is why they are in the final." For the first time in their history, Bangladesh have shown a resilience that seems to have taken them to another level altogether, all of a sudden. Their performance has not only delivered a first major final, but ensured that the two best teams play for the title. In a tournament that had the current World Cup champions and runners-up, that fact alone should give supporters the right to hope.

## CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

<b>ACROSS</b>	<b>38</b> Kipling larva	<b>59</b> Bean that provides a sauce	<b>20</b> Have a bug
<b>1</b> Former	<b>40</b> Bribe	<b>23</b> Cleo's slayer	<b>24</b> "CSI" evidence
<b>5</b> 2004 horror movie	<b>41</b> Barber's concern	<b>1</b> Harbor structure	<b>25</b> Mindless ones
<b>8</b> Composer	<b>43</b> Zilch	<b>3</b> Swine	<b>27</b> Erstwhile acorn
<b>12</b> Rainbow	<b>45</b> "Burnt" crayon	<b>4</b> Bonfire leftovers	<b>29</b> —
<b>13</b> Spy-novel org.	<b>47</b> Cause of weakness	<b>5</b> Sought huge profits	<b>30</b> Pump up the volume
<b>14</b> Lima's land	<b>51</b> Exotic berry	<b>6</b> Help	<b>32</b> Elton John or Billy Joel
<b>15</b> Intellectuals	<b>52</b> Marines, slangily	<b>7</b> Nasty nesters	<b>34</b> Mosque tower
<b>17</b> Rhyming tributes	<b>54</b> Scepters	<b>8</b> "Last Supper" figure	<b>37</b> Transgression
<b>18</b> Vend used goods	<b>55</b> Lemieux milieu	<b>10</b> Vicinity	<b>39</b> Ho Chi —
<b>19</b> Turkish officials	<b>56</b> Rote of football lore	<b>11</b> Toulouse	<b>42</b> Indira's son
<b>21</b> Dine	<b>57</b> "Meet Me — Louis"	<b>16</b> Hebrew month	<b>44</b> Welsh veggies
<b>22</b> Location	<b>58</b> Old hand		<b>45</b> Rani's wrap
<b>23</b> Okla-homa city			<b>46</b> PC picture
<b>26</b> Writer			<b>48</b> BLT topper
<b>28</b> Camel's cousin			<b>49</b> One way to stand by
<b>31</b> Quick cut			<b>50</b> On the briny
<b>33</b> Water barrier			<b>53</b> Expert
<b>35</b> Dutch cheese			
<b>36</b> Ms. Hilton			

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57							58		59	

## CRYPTOQUIP

V J R S F T Q Y V Y N Q B F L X K Z  
X A V S K L F R . L A L F K L J R M  
H Z F M L P R . H L H H U R P  
V Y O R X X L Y F U Z L H Q B F  
O L S X V T V Y N .  
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: LIQUOR AMPLE  
ENOUGH IN QUANTITY FOR ALMOST A HUNDRED  
COLLEGE LECTURERS: NINETY-PROF ALCOHOL.  
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Z equals Y