

# Kiwis on top

SPORTS REPORTER

It was a see-saw affair on the second day of the first Test at the Zohur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium yesterday, with the momentum continually shifting between the two sides. The Kiwis had lost two wickets early in the day and were seven down with just 289 runs on the board. And it seemed as though Bangladesh were going to cruise through the bottom half of the visitors long before lunch was taken; however, as it so often happens with the Bangladeshis, their opponents -- powered by a 127-run stand for the last wicket between BJ Watling (103) and Trent Boult (52) -- posted 469. What perhaps added to the woes was the fact that the century-maker, Watling, was caught at slip off a no-ball from Rubel Hossain when he had just scored four runs.

The hosts, who had lost two wickets within the first four overs of their reply, managed to recover slightly courtesy of an unbeaten 77 from Mominul Haque and finished the day on 103 for two with debutant Marshall Ayub batting on a patient 21.

Tamim Iqbal was caught at gully off the first legitimate delivery of the innings -- Boult's first ball was a wide -- when he attempted to drive an outswinging length ball outside the off stump. Anamul Haque followed two overs later with when he was caught in no man's land to an inswinger from Doug Bracewell and was trapped in front.

Mominul who came in next, shared an unbeaten 85-run partnership with debutant Marshall Ayub to relieve some of the pressure.

The left-hander seemed to be in excellent touch as he smashed 13 boundaries in his 71-ball innings. His high strike rate was not down to him taking undue risks but the result of his efficiently and elegantly punishing the bad balls, of which New Zealand were guilty of bowling too many. He drove Bruce Martin for three consecutive boundaries, all of which were down the ground, in the seventh over. In the following over, Mominul displayed a variety of textbook shots when he dispatched Bracewell for three fours. The first was driven through mid-off, which then compelled Bracewell to bang the ball in short. It was to no avail as Mominul rolled his wrists to pull the first one through midwicket and cut the second one through point.

He raced to his half-century in 35 balls. A compact looking Marshall provided Mominul with good support with a 71-ball 21.

Earlier Watling, after the reprieve, batted cautiously and guided the tail. Together with Boult, Watling frustrated the host to put on the second highest 10th wicket stand against the Tigers. It was also New Zealand's longest innings -- 157.1 overs -- against Bangladesh.



Mominul Haque led Bangladesh's chase with a better than run-a-ball 77 against New Zealand on the second day of the first Test at the Zohur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium in Chittagong yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

# Watling felt rather lucky

SPORTS REPORTER



Bradely Watling, who scored a century and rescued New Zealand from a lower order debacle, said that he considered himself a bit lucky yesterday. Watling edged one to gully when he was on four but was reprieved after the replays showed that the bowler had overstepped the line.

"Yeah, yeah obviously feeling rather lucky today (yesterday). But I guess that happens, it happened to one of them (Anamul Haque) as well but he could not continue. It's great to get that opportunity to keep going and make it count," said Watling.

The wicket-keeper batsman stated that he tried to follow a more cautious approach for the rest of the innings.

"I just tried to be patient and wait for them to bowl some bad balls. And I think if you bat a lot of time on that wicket you can get used to the wicket and you can score runs when the bowler starts to tire, the plan was to get going, work with the tail and try to squeeze out as many runs as possible," he said.

Together with Trent Boult, the pair shared a 127-run partnership for the last wicket and re-ignited the Kiwis.

# Poor weather hits Siddikur

SPORTS REPORTER

Siddikur Rahman was stranded at one-under-par after 12 holes in the CJ Invitational before bad weather halted play at the Haesley Nine Bridges Golf Club on the outskirts of Seoul yesterday.

Siddikur managed to hit two birdies along with a bogey among the 12 holes he completed in the day. The 28-year-old is among 60 players who will return on Friday to resume the first round at 7am. Korea's Kim Tae-hoon finished the day on 66 to take the clubhouse lead.

# Yuvi roars back

PTI, Rajkot



Yuvraj Singh made a fantastic comeback to the national side as he blasted his way to a 35-ball 77 to power India to a comfortable six-wicket win over Australia in the high-scoring one-off Twenty20 international here on Thursday.

Yuvraj forged an unbeaten 102-run stand with skipper MS Dhoni, who played a second-fiddle, as India chased down a huge 202-run target with two balls to spare.

Yuvraj carried his sublime form, with which he forced his way into the team, into the game as he plundered eight fours and five sixes in his 35-ball knock.

Aaron Finch had powered Australia to a challenging 201 for seven with his blistering 89-run knock off 52-ball as visiting batsmen made merry on a flat wicket after being invited to bat.

## SCORES IN BRIEF

AUSTRALIA: 201 for 7 in 20 overs (Finch 89, Maddinson 34, Maxwell 27; V Kumar 3-26, B Kumar 3-35)

INDIA: 202 for 4 in 19.2 overs (Yuvraj 77 not out, Dhawan 32, Kohli 29, Dhoni 24 not out; McKay 2-50)

Result: India beat Australia by 6 wickets.

# U-19s level series

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Under-19s bounced back strongly to square the seven-match series 1-1 as they posted a 63-run victory over their West Indies counterparts in the second one-dayer at Bourda, Georgetown in Guyana on Wednesday.

Jasim Uddin (63), Mosaddek Hossain (70) and Nazmul Hossain (42) helped the visitors put up a fighting total of 259 for 7 in 50 overs before left-arm spinner Rahatul Ferdous claimed five wickets to wrap up the home side's innings for 196 runs.

# Players, coaches show-caused

SPORTS REPORTER



The executive committee of Bangladesh Hockey Federation yesterday decided to serve show-cause notices to four senior players, a coach and an umpire following the debacle of the national team in the AHF 9th Asia Cup.

"The Fact Finding Committee found allegations against Rasel Mahmud Jimmy, Zahid Hossain, Imran Hasan Pintoo, Qumruzzaman Rana, coach Mahbub Harun and umpire Selim Lucky and show-cause notices will be served against them for their lack of commitment, unethical activities and indiscipline," BHF president Air Marshal Muhammad Enamul Bari told the press after the meeting at the Maulana Bhasani Hockey Stadium.

The meeting decided to warn Pakistani coach Naveed Alam, captain Chayan, vice captain Krishna, Mimo and Koushik.



# জাতীয় উন্নয়নে আমরা পাশে আছি সবসময়



ঢাকার ব্যস্ততম এলাকা যাত্রাবাড়ীর যানজট নিরসনের লক্ষ্যে দেশের সর্ববৃহৎ ফ্লাইওভার মেয়র মোহাম্মদ হানিফ ফ্লাইওভারের নির্মাণকাজ মাননীয় প্রধানমন্ত্রী জননেত্রী শেখ হাসিনার তত্ত্বাবধানে অতি দ্রুত সম্পন্ন হয়। এই বিশাল কর্মসূচির অর্থায়নের মাধ্যমে, জাতীয় অগ্রগতিতে পাশে থাকতে পেরে আমরা গর্বিত।

মেয়র মোহাম্মদ হানিফ ফ্লাইওভার যানজট নিরসন ও যোগাযোগ খাতে মাইলফলক।

