



BTV, Maasranga & GTV ICC Cricket World Cup West Indies v Zimbabwe Live from 9:30am **TEN Sports UEFA Champions League** Juventus v Dortmund

Live from 1:45am (Wednesday) **TEN Action UEFA Champions League** Man City v Barcelona Live from 1:45am (Wednesday)









Fresh air is good for the Tigers to get over the mental stress they have been through for the last couple of days. (Top) Mushfigur Rahim is happily complying with a request for a photo; (above, left) Tamim Iqbal leads the pack to a restaurant for lunch and skipper Mashrafe Bin Mortaza perhaps confirms the inquisitive reporters that he was yet to find his sunglasses he lost more than a week ago here in Melbourne. PHOTOS: BCB



Tigers coming to terms with Al-Amin shock

BISHWAJIT ROY from Melbourne

A pal of gloom replaced happiness as the otherwise cheerful Tigers on Monday tried to get over the unhappy episode of pace bowler Al-Amin Hossain that understandably upset the rhythm of the Bangladesh team in Australia.

Al-Amin went for lunch outside the team hotel yesterday along with left-handed opener Tamim Iqbal and pacer Rubel

Hossain few hours before his departure for home. And the way the three walked alongside it was hard to believe that they were battling against an influx of emotion following Bangladesh Cricket Board's decision to withdraw the pacer for breaching the team rules.

Although nobody wished to talk, the mood in the team, it seemed, was that the board "was too harsh compared to the crime".

They also felt hurt at the way the BCB high-ups turned down the senior players' request to heavily fine Al-Amin instead of sending him home for breaking the team rules. Receiving information from various sources the players were convinced that the

'ACSU has

no issues'

SPORTS REPORTER from Melbourne

Pacer Al-Amin Hossain left

Bangladesh's team hotel in

to a long flight back home

apparently with a clean

sheet from ICC's anti-

(ACSU).

Melbourne yesterday on way

corruption and security unit

"As per our knowledge

he [Al-Amin] has no issues

with ACSU. Yes you can say

that he is going home with

a clean sheet from the

team manager Khaled

players are staying.

ACSU," said Bangladesh

Mahmud while talking to

reporters yesterday at the

Langham Hotel where the

bowler had no link in match- or spot-fixing allegation and that the ACSU apparently cleared him despite the fact that he was guilty of staying outside team hotel after the 10:00pm deadline.

According to a reliable source, captain Mashrafe Bin Mortaza and his deputy Shakib Al Hasan tried their best to convince the visiting BCB high-ups; especially Shakib tried as much as possible to change the hearts of the officials as they thought a heavy financial penalty would have been good enough for what Al-Amin had done on the night of February 19.

The question also crept up on the players after the way team manager Khaled Mahmud,

also a BCB director, handled the matter.

It would now be a big challenge for Mashrafe to bring that positive vive back in the team ahead of their next challenge against Sri Lanka on February 26 at the MCG.

Mashrafe himself too admitted it.

"It was not expected what happened. We were in a good shape after getting three points from two matches and the team mood was fantastic but this incident had unhinged everything. But fortunately we



have enough time in our hand before the next game and hopefully everything will be okay very soon," said a dejected Bangladesh captain.

> Reportedly Mashrafe, including Al-Amin, played a big role in the squad and when his attention was drawn about this matter, he said: "We have plan with every player and

Al-Amin was no exception. What I thought that Al-Amin's natural inswinger will be effective against teams like Sri Lanka and England who have a number of lefthanded batsmen. Anyway I respect the board's decision and hope Al-Amin will understand that discipline is the most important thing."

However, the most puzzling question that haunted everyone including the players is why a university graduate like Al-Amin stayed outside team hotel after the deadline when he was well aware of the fact that he was already under the ACSU scanner.

"He is a stupid," quipped a discontent teammate.

www.bsbbd.com

Mossadek lifts Barisal Federer no

youngster

Mosaddek Hossain

took Barisal to a position of strength

against Chittagong at the BKSP yester-

day on the first day of the fourth round

of the National Cricket League.

Courtesy of the youngster's century,

Barisal finished the day on 417 for 6.

They were also aided by a quick 94 from

former national off-spinner Shohag

fours in his 86-ball knock. In an aggres-

sive knock, Mosaddek hammered 22

boundaries in 166 balls after coming in

scored three consecutive centuries in his

first three innings, failed to shine yet

again as he was sent back to pavilion for

just five in Dhaka's first innings yester-

day against Khulna at Fatullah. The

league leaders however recovered cour-

tesy of an unbeaten 84 from Shuvagata

Hom yesterday. They are now poised at

244 for 6. Khulna will be hoping to run

through the last four wickets in quick

Mustafizur Rahman shone once again

Khulna's young left-arm pacer

time on day two today.

Meanwhile, Rony Talukdar, who had



at number five.

SPORTS REPORTER as he took three crucial wickets yesterday and ran through the top order day and ran through the top order. brilliant Sylhet held the edge at the Sher-eunbeaten 150 from

Bangla National Cricket Stadium at Mirpur yesterday as they removed eight Dhaka Metro wickets on day one. Metro, led by Marshall Ayub finished the day on 229 for 8. Marshall topscored with 67.

At ground number three at the BKSP, Rajshahi were skittled out for 263, courtesy of two three-wicket hauls from Sanjit Saha and Tanvir Haider. Allrounder Muktar Ali and Gazi, who smacked six sixes and six Tareq Khan scored quick halfcenturies to help Rajshahi cross the 250-mark.

SCORES IN BRIEF

BARISAL: 417 for 6 (Mosaddek 150 not out, Shohag 94; Faisal 2-93) v CHITTAGONG

DHAKA: 244 for 6 (Shuvagata 84 not out, Abdul 65; Mustafizur 3-62, Ziaur 2-28) v KHULNA

RAJSHAHI: 263 all out in 85.5 overs (Muktar 85, Tareq 57; Tanvir 3-14, Sanjit 3-65) v RANGPUR: 25 for no loss (Liton 21 not out) DHAKA METRO: 229 for 8 (Marshall 67,

Mehrab 54; Ahmed 3-19, Abu 3-57) v SYLHET

"It was a Nike campaign they had because I met some of the Indian players and I had just spent some time in India so they presented the shirt to me.

today. #BleedBlue."

ing photo-shoot.

AFP, Dubai

"I support South Africa, and everybody knows that. The idea wasn't to spark any fire and I'm sorry if it did that."

Roger Federer has apologised for

getting caught up in the bitter rivalry

between Indian and Pakistani

cricket fans after he was pictured

admiring the blue shirt of World

Cup champions India in a market-

The 17-time Grand Slam title win-

ner shares the same sponsor as the

Indian team and on the eve of the two

sides' World Cup clash in Adelaide last

weekend, Federer posted a picture on

his Facebook page of him admiring a

blue playing jersey with the caption

"Dressing up for a Gentleman's game

quite honest," said the Swiss star on

the eve of the Dubai Open.

"It was more of a Nike thing to be

The photograph certainly irritated Federer's legion of fans in Pakistan



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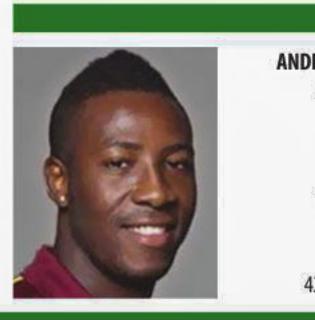
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Last meeting: 26 th Feb 2013 at St George's. West Indies won by 5 wickets (with 22 balls remaining)

KEY PLAYERS



WEST INDIES

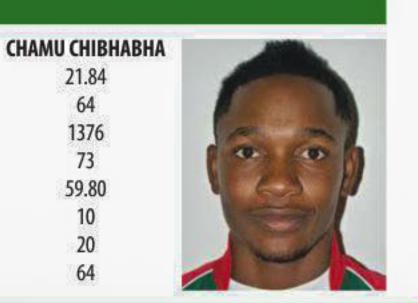
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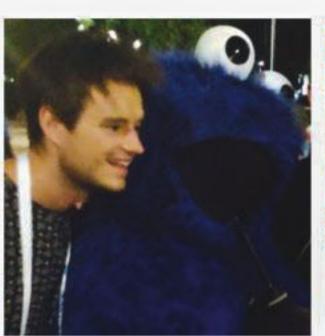
ANDRE RUSSELL **Bat Average** 31.34 Runs 130.04 Strike Rate 50s **Totol Wickets** 42* & 3/33 Last Match



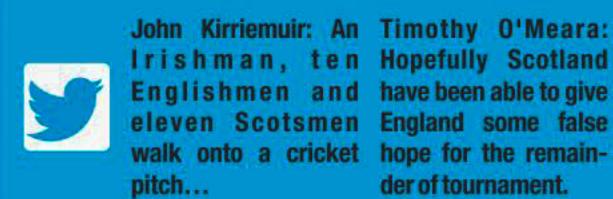
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A bagpipe playing Cookie Monster mixes with fans, while a Scottish couple show off their colors. Three young Proteas fans also show their support.







der of tournament.

