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Fresh air is good for the Tigers to get over the mental stress they have been through for the last couple of days. (Top) Mushfiqur 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



Mossadek lifts Barisal

SPORTS REPORTER



A brilliant unbeaten 150 from youngster Mosaddek Hossain took Barisal to a position of strength against Chittagong at the BKSP yesterday 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 Gazi, who smacked six sixes and six fours in his 86-ball knock. In an aggressive knock, Mosaddek hammered 22 boundaries in 166 balls after coming in at number five.

Meanwhile, Rony Talukdar, who had 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 yesterday against Khulna at Fatullah. The league leaders however recovered courtesy 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 time on day two today.

Khulna's young left-arm pacer Mustafizur Rahman shone once again

as he took three crucial wickets yesterday and ran through the top order.

Sylhet held the edge at the Sher-e-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 top-scored 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 Tareq Khan scored quick half-centuries 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**

Federer no India fan

AFP, Dubai

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 marketing photo-shoot.

The 17-time Grand Slam title winner 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 today. #BleedBlue."

"It was more of a Nike thing to be quite honest," said the Swiss star on the eve of the Dubai Open.

"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.

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

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

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ZIMBABWE

HEAD TO HEAD IN WORLD CUPS

M	W	L
5	5	0

M	W	L
5	0	5

IN ALL ODIS

M	W	L
44	34	9

M	W	L
44	9	34

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

KEY PLAYERS



ANDRE RUSSELL

31.34	Bat Average	21.84
38	Inns	64
909	Runs	1376
92*	HS	73
130.04	Strike Rate	59.80
4	50s	10
56	Total Wickets	20
42* & 3/33	Last Match	64



CHAMU CHIBHABHA

21.84
64
1376
73
59.80
10
20
64



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



John Kirriemuir: An Irishman, ten Englishmen and eleven Scotsmen walk onto a cricket pitch...

Timothy O'Meara: Hopefully Scotland have been able to give England some false hope for the remainder of tournament.