

SPORT

MOMENTS

LITON NOT OUT AND OUT

In the ninth over from Kagiso Rabada, Liton Das tried to drive and edged the ball to second slip, where Proteas skipper Faf du Plessis seemed to have completed a good, low catch. The umpires conferred as it was a low take centimetres from the turf. 'Not Out' flashed on the big screen, which was puzzling because the replays showed that Du Plessis caught it cleanly. Moments later, there was sudden silence as if someone had hit the mute button on the remote. It was not the mute button, but the 'Out' button – the screen operators had flicked the wrong switch the first time, and Liton had to walk back.

THE WRONG ONE

Imran Tahir is notorious for thinking that every time the ball hits the pad, he has gotten the batsman out. He is also someone who is adept at bowling the googly and Bangladesh are a team notorious for being unable to read the back-of-the-hand variation. In the 27th over, Mushfiqur Rahim went for a paddle sweep and missed the wrong'un, and Tahir resisted the review. In the 29th over, Mahmudullah Riyad misread the ball and missed the sweep, but it was obvious to the naked eye that it struck him outside the off stump. This time, Tahir convinced his skipper to review, but the slow motions confirmed the initial impression and the hosts lost their only review. The Tigers may not have picked the wrong'un, but Du Plessis certainly trusted the wrong one to trust on the review.

THE BALL'S ALIVE, THE INNINGS DEAD

It was not a good day for the behind-the-scenes operators. The scoreboard said 49.5 overs when debutant Mohammad Saifuddin holed out for 16. Mashrafe Bin Mortaza walked out but was soon sent back as the rest of the players on the field walked off. In the fourth ball of the last over, the umpire signalled a dead ball because Rabada had bowled down the leg side and Saifuddin appeared to just be getting his pad out of the way before the ball brushed it and not playing a ball. The dead ball was to disallow the run that followed, but the scorers had thought that it disallowed the ball too.



South Africa openers Hashim Amla (L) and Quinton de Kock barely broke a sweat as they racked up a century each and eased the hosts to Bangladesh's 278-run total at the Diamond Oval in Kimberley yesterday.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

Fizz likely out for rest of tour

Mushy also under injury cloud

SPORTS REPORTER from Kimberley

There is no end to the bad news for Bangladesh as the humiliating 10-wicket loss against South Africa in the first ODI yesterday was followed by skipper Mashrafe Bin Mortaza saying that Mustafizur Rahman will miss the rest of the series, and will likely miss the rest of the tour as well. The pacer twisted his ankle badly during warm-up on Saturday.

"It is seeming like that," said Minhajul Abedin, chief selector and team manager for this tour, when asked about the chances of Mustafizur missing the rest of the tour, which will end on October 30 with the second T20I in Potchefstroom. "As far as the rest of the ODI series is concerned he will miss it."

If that were not enough, Mushfiqur Rahim, who was the lone bright spot with a century yesterday, has, according to Minhajul, tweaked his hamstring and did not field during South Africa's innings. "He has pulled a hamstring," informed Minhajul. "We can't say anything now; we'll know more when we go to Cape Town."

The Bangladesh team will reach Cape Town in the afternoon today for the second ODI in Paarl on Wednesday. Mustafizur will undergo a scan today in Cape Town, and it is expected that Mushfiqur will also be assessed.

Bangladesh's star opener Tamim Iqbal is also yet to recover from a thigh muscle tear, which caused him to miss the second Test and yesterday's first ODI.



MUSTAFIZUR RAHMAN

'Bowling was disappointing'

SAKEB SUBHAN from Kimberley

It was a match of two halves for Bangladesh yesterday. It started positively enough, with their best batting performance on tour so far, powered by an excellent fifth ODI century from Mushfiqur Rahim that took them to 278 for seven, the highest total by a Bangladesh team in South Africa. What followed was a completely toothless bowling display that left Bangladesh captain Mashrafe Bin Mortaza flummoxed and a little embarrassed by South Africa's mockery of a 279-run target, which they overhauled with 10 wickets and 43 balls to spare. Bangladesh's inefficacy in bowling is illustrated in a simple stat: in their last two ODIs, they have taken a grand total of one wicket over 83 overs -- that of Shikhar Dhawan, dismissed by Mashrafe 57.2 overs ago in the Champions Trophy semifinal on June 15. "It was a 280-plus wicket but we could have defended it had we taken early wickets and created pressure from both sides. This was beyond our expectation, how we couldn't take a wicket," said Mashrafe after the match ended at

the Diamond Oval in Kimberley yesterday. "I am sure all the bowlers will think about what happened and I'm sure this was not part of how they wanted to bowl. We have to come back from this." But a comeback is going to be hard, especially considering what he said next. "Mustafizur [Rahman] is probably out of the series from the time he got hurt yesterday." Mustafizur, arguably Bangladesh's best ODI bowler, twisted his ankle during warm-up on the eve of the first ODI and missed the match yesterday. It was learnt that his ankle had swollen up appreciably and that there will be a scan when the team reach Cape Town today. Already hamstrung by the absence of their pace spearhead, Bangladesh were further hampered by the absence of their batting lynchpin Tamim Iqbal, who is yet to fully recover from the thigh muscle tear he had sustained earlier on tour, and which forced the country's highest run-scorer to miss the second Test. "We were aware of their injuries from yesterday. We waited for Tamim till the last moment but the physio didn't want to take a risk," said Mashrafe. "Our body language didn't reflect anything untoward when we started the day. We batted

almost as planned; Shakib [Al Hasan] and Mushfiqur took responsibility by performing their roles properly." But it was the bowling that had really let them down as they failed to take a wicket for 42.5 overs as Hashim Amla and Quinton de Kock struck serene tons and recorded only the second instance in ODI history that a team won by 10 wickets when chasing more than 250. After innings of 90, 147 and 172 to close out the Test series, 278 seems a great result. But the 10-wicket reversal has more than cancelled out any positives that could have emerged. "We are doing everything possible. The result is not coming in our favour to keep mentality positive," said Mashrafe. "I think they would have chased the total regardless but we should have taken at least five or six wickets in the process. It may have put them under some pressure but our bowling was just disappointing. It will be hard for us to do well if we keep bowling this way." A question was raised about whether there was a rift in the team; apparently someone had seen Tamim throw his bat during practice the day before. Mashrafe however did not have time for such speculation.

BD-SA SCOREBOARD				
BANGLADESH	R/B	4s/6s		
Imrul c De Kock b Pretorius	31/43	4/1		
Liton c Du Plessis b Rabada	21/29	4/0		
Shakib c Amla b Tahir	29/45	2/0		
Mushfiqur not out	110/116	11/2		
Mahmudullah c Miller b Pretorius	26/27	3/1		
Sabbir c Paterson b Rabada	19/21	1/1		
Nasir c Amla b Rabada	11/8	2/0		
Saifuddin c Paterson b Rabada	16/11	1/1		
Extras: (lb-5, w-10)	15			
Total: (For 7 wks)	278			
Did not bat: Mashrafe, Taskin, Rubel.				
Fall of wickets: 1-43, 2-67, 3-126, 4-195, 5-237, 6-253, 7-278.				
Bowler	O	M	R	W
Rabada	10	1	43	4
Paterson	9	0	69	0
Tahir	10	0	45	1
Pretorius	10	0	48	2
Phehlukwayo	10	0	60	0
Duminy	1	0	8	0
SOUTH AFRICA	R/B	4s/6s		
De Kock not out	168/145	21/2		
Amla not out	110/112	8/0		
Extras: (w-4)	4			
Total: (For no loss in 41.2 overs)	282			
Did not bat: Du Plessis, De Villiers, Miller, Duminy, Pretorius, Phehlukwayo, Rabada, Paterson, Tahir.				
Bowling	O	M	R	W
Rubel	6	0	37	0
Mashrafe	8.5	0	50	0
Taskin	8	0	61	0
Shakib	8	0	48	0
Saifuddin	5	0	46	0
Nasir	5	0	29	0
Mahmudullah	2	0	11	0
Result: South Africa won by 10 wickets and lead the 3-match ODI series 1-0.				
Player-of-the-match: Quinton de Kock.				

PERFORMER OF THE DAY

MUSHFIQUR RAHIM



Mushfiqur Rahim became the first Bangladesh batsman to score a century against South Africa in any format and led the Tigers to their highest total against the hosts in the first ODI yesterday as Bangladesh posted 278 for eight in 50 overs. The wicketkeeper-batsman attacked from the word go after coming into bat at number four and brought up his fifth ODI century before ending the innings unbeaten on 110 off 116 balls, a knock that saw him smite 11 fours and two sixes. From his classic straight drive and innovative scoop to the reverse sweep, the right-hander's full arsenal was on display and he was on top of his game.

Teams pushing for wins

Teams began to push for results and displayed much more attacking intent on the third day of the fifth round of the 19th National Cricket League at venues across the country yesterday. Khulna are in total control after having forced Barisal to follow-on at the Shahid Kamruzzaman Stadium in Rajshahi. Barisal were bundled out for 296 in their first innings and ended the day at 80 for 1, trailing by 135 runs with Rafsan Al Mahamud (47) and Fazole Rabbi (29) at the crease and face a daunting task to save the game on the final day. After resuming their first innings on 94 for 4, Shohag Gazi and Shamsul Islam added 97 runs for the fifth wicket with both scoring in the sixties. However, Barisal lost their way afterwards in the face of Khulna's 511-run first innings total and conceded the follow-on. Nahidul and left-arm spinner Abdur Razzak bagged three wickets each while pacers Al-Amin Hossain and Robiul Islam took two wickets each. At the Sheikh Abu Naser Stadium in Khulna, Dhaka require 65 more runs with four wickets remaining to avoid the follow-on after concluding the penultimate day on

265 for 6 against Rangpur. Dhaka went for a slow approach after resuming on 54 for 1 and added 241 runs in 90 overs. Overnight batsman Minhaj Khan scored 62 off 159 with seven fours while Rakibul Hasan scored 51 off 115. Shuvagata Hom also struck fifty, scoring a team-high 67 off 100 with nine fours and a six before he became Abdur Rahman's second victim. Left-arm spinner Suhrawardi Shuvo also took two while Mahmudul Hasan and Jahid Javed picked up a scalp each for Rangpur. In Bogra, Rajshahi took a first innings lead as they posted 403 in reply to Chittagong's score of 260. Chittagong ended the third day on 109 for 3 in their second innings after Sadikur Rahman scored a team-high 48. Tasamul Haque (32) and Sazzadul Haque will resume the fourth day trailing by 34 runs. After resuming on 229 for 5, number eight batsman Hamidul Islam struck an unbeaten 73 off 154 balls featuring eight fours to give Rajshahi the lead. Mehedi Hasan, Hasan Mahmud, Iftekar Sajjad and Wahidul Alam took two wickets each for the bowling side. Sylhet are in a spot of bother at the Zahur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium in Chittagong despite having taken a first innings lead as they were struggling at 176 for eight in their second innings against Dhaka Metro.

Shakib fastest to 5k runs, 200 scalps

FASTEST TO DOUBLE			
PLAYER	MAT	RUNS	WKTS
Shakib Al Hasan (BD)	178	5012	224
Jacques Kallis (SA)	221	7703	200
Sanath Jayasuriya (SL)	235	6601	200
Shahid Afridi (PAK)	239	5071	201
Abdul Razzak (PAK)	258	5040	263

SPORTS REPORTER from Kimberley

Shakib Al Hasan became the quickest to the double of 5,000 runs and 200 wickets during the first ODI against South Africa yesterday. The champion cricketer, who was 17 runs shy of 5,000, reached the milestone when he ran Dwaine Pretorius down to third man in the 20th over. Shakib was dismissed after scoring 29 but not before becoming the quickest to score 5,000 runs and picking 200 wickets in his 178th match. However he had reached the 200-wicket mark against South Africa in Chittagong in June 2015 and with 224 wickets, Shakib is just the fifth player in ODI history to achieve the double. The all-rounder surpassed South Africa's legendary all-rounder Jacques Kallis, who reached the feat in 221 ODIs. The players who reached the milestone before Shakib are a who's who of limited-overs cricket: Sanath Jayasuriya, Kallis, Shahid Afridi and Abdul Razzak. Shakib is now also the second Bangladesh batsman to go past 5,000 ODI runs -- Tamim Iqbal was the first Bangladesh batsman to reach that mark in October 2016 during the third ODI against England in Chittagong. Shakib has taken 168 innings, while Tamim did it in 10 innings fewer.

Little Mirpur

SPORTS REPORTER from Kimberley

Cries of 'Mushfiq! Mushfiq!', 'Bangladesh! Bangladesh!' and of course 'Bhua!', 'Bhua!', the whiff of biriyani behind the grass banks... could this be anywhere other than Mirpur's Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium? Only the use of the word 'grass banks' would have clued you in to the fact that this was not any of Bangladesh's international venues. From the press box, the only reminder that this is a foreign land was the lack of big, concrete stands. But if you closed your eyes yesterday and let the other senses take over, it was Mirpur in early winter. That the biggest crowd on Bangladesh's tour of South Africa will be in the ODI series was expected; that the overwhelming majority would be Bangladesh's supporters proved that the Bangladeshi cricket supporter is perhaps the most fanatically loyal in all of cricket. According to Zia, a Bangladeshi shop owner in Kimberley, expatriate Bangladeshis number about 2,000 in Kimberley and surrounding areas, by a conservative estimate. By a conservative estimate, and going by the noise that greeted every Bangladesh boundary, all 2,000 of

them were at the Diamond Oval yesterday. But the ground, which has a capacity of 11,000, was packed to capacity and at least 60 per cent of them were Bangladeshis. Shafatur Rahman Onick, a cellphone shop owner in Johannesburg, made the six-hour car trip to Kimberley the previous day. "On Sundays, business is slow, so I thought why not go down to Kimberley," Shafatur said as everyone around him cheered wildly to celebrate another Mushfiqur boundary. If a six-hour trip from Johannesburg was no matter, then a 100-minute drive from Bloemfontein was peanuts. Judging by the number of people who shouted out in Bangla 'see you in Kimberley' during 'Tigers' Bloemfontein stay, a majority of Bangladeshi voices may well have been from the city of the Orange Free State. A young man in a Bangladesh t-shirt with the word Pranto printed on the back had gone, or come, even further. "I am from Botswana," the Bangladeshi student said, as if it was nothing. It was a four-hour drive, but crossing international borders seemed a small price to pay. Having shouted themselves hoarse throughout the first half of the match, there was an eerie quiet during South Africa's innings. With a loss inevitable, the banks were half empty halfway through the chase. It doesn't get more Mirpur than that.



SCORES IN BRIEF

BARISAL VS KHULNA DIVISION
KHULNA: 511 for 8 dec (Ziaur 152, Robiul 114; Gazi 4-148)
BARISAL: 296 and 80 for 1 in 35 overs (Rafsan 47 not out, Fazole 29 not out; Nahidul 3-51, Razzak 3-89)
SYLHET VS DHAKA METRO
SYLHET: 319 and 176 for 8 in 72 overs (Shanaj 66, Alok 32; Nihad 4-77, Sunny 3-45)
DHAKA METRO: 259 all out (Marshall 98, Ashraf 40; Enamul 5-77)
RANGPUR VS DHAKA DIVISION
RANGPUR: 560 for 8 dec (Naeem 216, Suhrawardi 145, Ariful 100; Shuvagata 3-125)
DHAKA: 295 for 6 in 119 overs (Shuvagata 67, Minhaj 62, Rakibul 51; Rahman 2-60, Suhrawardi 2-88)
RAJSHAHI VS CHITTAGONG
CHITTAGONG: 260 and 109 for 3 in 30 overs (Sadikur 48, Tasamul 32 not out; Saqlain 1-24, Shariful 1-27)
RAJSHAHI: 403 (Mizanur 102, Hamidul 73 not out; Wahidul 2-27, Hasan 2-77)