

AFP, Cardiff

Martin Guptill and Colin Munro then hit unbeaten half-centuries to make short work of their modest target. "It's a great start for us. You want a balanced attack going into any surface. It is important that you have that to have aggressive options for different occasions," New Zealand captain Kane Williamson said.

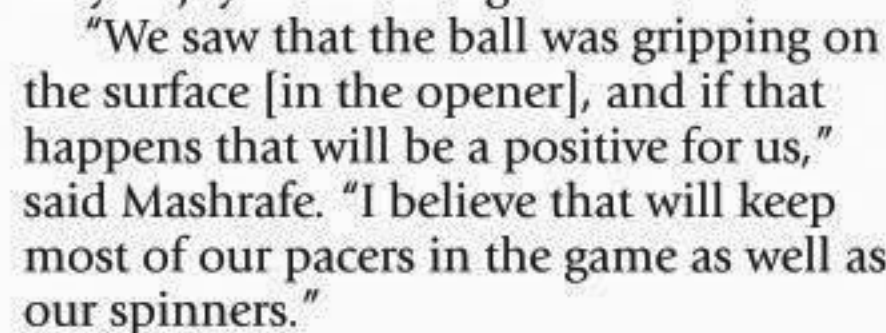
"The two at the top played beautifully. It was nice for those guys to play a few shots. It was a good all-round performance."

"The batters aren't low on confidence. We batted well in some practice games and we work really hard. We need to think about the game."

PHOTO: BCB

SAKEB SUBHAN *from London*

"But talking of hype, that is created



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Mohammad Saifuddin, who had a stiff back after the warm-up match against India, was also seen bowling, as was Mustafizur Rahman, who had some calf trouble during the warm-up. It therefore seems that Bangladesh will be fielding a full-strength side for the all-important opener.

After dismissing Sri Lanka for a paltry 136-run total, New Zealand chased down the target with ease, courtesy of an unbeaten 51-ball 73 from opener Martin Guptill. Guptill, alongside Colin Munro, added an unbeaten 137-run opening stand as New Zealand registered a comprehensive ten-wicket win. Guptill played the role of aggressor, striking eight fours and two sixes to finish the game in style. He was perhaps encouraged by the presence of his wife, Laura McGoldrick (bottom), who witnessed the game from the stands with their daughter.

