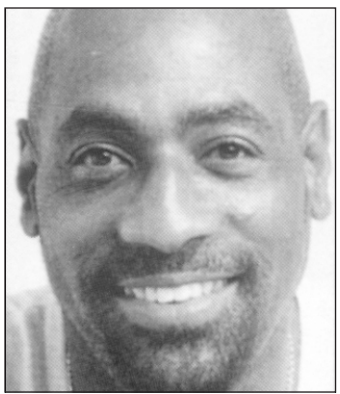




West Indies hold the record of playing most consecutive Tests without defeat. They played 27 matches from Sydney 1981-82 to Melbourne 1984-85 without a defeat.



**TEN Sports**  
Sri Lanka vs Pakistan  
Tri Series  
Live at 10:00 pm  
**ESPN**  
Western Union World Football  
Taped Version at 1:30 pm  
**Primera Liga**  
Real Madrid vs Malaga  
Live at 11:30 pm  
**STAR Sports**  
West Indies vs Australia  
Second ODI  
Live at 8:30 pm



**Viv Richards**  
(WICB chairman of selectors)  
"A lot came expecting to see a white-wash, I just think it is a tremendous effort to achieve a record doing it. I think it is a team that can do well in the future."

**Star WHIZZ KID COMPETITION 193**  
Tick the correct answers, post to The Daily Star  
Win attractive prizes  
**Competition closes at 8 pm May 30, 2003 and draw shortly afterwards**

1. Who clinched the Professor Abdur Razzak 29th National chess title?		
Niaz	Zia	Reefat
2. Who became man-of-the-match in the Sharjah Cup final?		
Youhana	Sami	Taufiq
3. Who will lead Sri Lanka's one day side?		
Tillekeratne	Vass	
Atapattu		
4. Who won the man-of-the-series award in the TVS Cup triangular tournament?		

Name .....  
.....  
Class. .... Roll No. ....  
School Address .....  
.....  
Phone: (If any) .....

**Australia 140/3**  
**STAR SPORT MONITOR**  
Australia were 140 for three after 29 overs after put into bat by West Indies in the first one-day international at Sabina Park in Jamaica yesterday.  
Darren Lehmann was batting on 36 and Andrew Symonds on 2. Captain Ricky Ponting made 59 and Adam Gilchrist scored 21.  
**TEAMS**  
**WEST INDIES:** Brian Lara, Ramnaresh Sarwan, Omari Banks, Carlton Baugh, Jr, Corey Collymore, Mervyn Dillon, Vasbert Drakes, Chris Gayle, Ricardo Powell, Marlon Samuels, Devon Smith.  
**AUSTRALIA:** Ricky Ponting, Adam Gilchrist, Michael Bevan, Andy Bichel, Ian Harvey, Matthew Hayden, Brad Hogg, Brett Lee, Darren Lehmann, Glenn McGrath, Andrew Symonds.

# Cricket gets new home BFF moving to Kamlapur

SPORTS REPORTER

The Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur is all set to become the permanent home of the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) after the National Sports Council (NSC) took the decision yesterday.

The decision of the NSC general council fulfilled the dream of homeless cricketers. Despite being the number one sport in the country, cricket found itself at odds with football for many years over possession of the all-purpose Bangabandhu National Stadium (BNS).

Interestingly, the Mirpur Stadium was originally designated for football. The NSC decision now means that the door for football in Mirpur has been closed.

"The Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium from now on belongs to cricket," said State Minister for Youth and Sports Fazlur Rahman after the meeting.

However, NSC secretary Masud Elahi said that the stadium's athletic track would remain there for the next nine months.

He said that the BCB would be

able to lay pitches and provide other facilities without affecting the expensive running track.

The Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) will as a result have to shift their activities to the stadium near the city's central railway station.

"Football will now shift to the new stadium in Kamlapur," said Masud.

The general council of the NSC also approved the new draft constitution of the Board.

Though it abolished the concept of directors in the BCB but interestingly considered as legal all activities that took place during that period.

Regarding the new draft constitution of the Board Masud said that it would follow the pattern practised in other sports federations of the country.

There will be a president, four vice-presidents, a secretary and a treasurer, two joint-secretaries and 22 members, with two to be nominated by the NSC.

On whether the president of the BCB would be elected or be nominated by the government, Masud

said that it would depend on the Board itself.

He also disclosed that a few minor changes have been made to the new constitution like the inclusion of councilors from cricket players' association. He added that the figure would be ten. The cricket committee has also been included in the standing committees.

Besides, it has also included the mode of payment of a foreigner working for the Board.

"It has also included the clause of the Board's operation in the absence of a president", added Masud.

The renovation work of the BNS was also included in the agenda of the meeting, but no decision has been made on that issue.

Masud said that a committee has been formed to work out the details of the expenditure before the next meeting.

Apart from the cricket-related issues, a housing plan for NSC staff came up for discussion. A four-member committee was set up to assess the feasibility of constructing staff quarters near Fatullah Stadium.

## Nat'l Cricket meet Ctg move into final round

SPORTS REPORTER

Chittagong advanced to the final round of the 26th National Cricket Championship with a seven-wicket victory against Feni at the Comilla Stadium yesterday.

Batting first, Feni were bundled out for 111 in 38.2 overs with Arafat claiming four wickets for 20 runs.

Chittagong raced to 114-3 in 22.2 overs with Aftab hammering a quick-fire 56.

At Mymensingh, Faridpur ambled past Kishoreganj by 82 runs. They will take on the winners of Tangail and Jamalpur tomorrow.

In a low-scoring affair Faridpur scored 132 before being all out in 47.5 overs. But Kishoreganj, in their chase, crashed to 51 in 30.1 overs after some good bowling from Mukul, who finished five for 11 runs.

At Faridpur, Gopalganj registered an easy 95-run win against Madaripur. Batting first, Gopalganj thrived on half-centuries by Billal (77) and Masudur (55) to post a massive 287-6 in their share of 50 overs.

Madaripur responded with 192 before being all out in 39 overs. Sohail with a dazzling 82 fought a lone battle for the losers.

SEE PAGE 14 COL 1



PHOTO: AFP

**TRYING SOMETHING DIFFERENT?** Sri Lanka left-arm paceman Chaminda Vaas tries out his batting capabilities as a right-hander in the nets at Dambulla yesterday. Vaas usually bowls and bats with his left hand.

## Yuvraj late

AFP, London

Yuvraj Singh is set to play his first game for Yorkshire next week, the English county said Friday.

India batsman Yuvraj was due to arrive at Headingley on Friday but visa problems meant that he may not be at the club until after this weekend.

If that is the case, the first game the 21-year-old Yuvraj could play for Yorkshire would be the four-day Second Division county championship match at home to Glamorgan starting on Wednesday.

"He'll have the chance to rest on Monday evening and Tuesday, and hopefully he'll be ready to play on Wednesday," Yorkshire's director of cricket Geoff Cope told the BBC on Friday.

Yuvraj, yet to play Test cricket, was only signed by Yorkshire after Australia's Matthew Elliott had to return home following a persistent knee injury.

He will become the second Indian player to feature for Yorkshire.

SEE PAGE 14 COL 5

# Stars yet to sparkle



AFP, Dambulla

Sri Lanka and Pakistan are looking forward to a big knock from their leading batsmen when they clash in a triangular one-day cricket series match here on Sunday.

Top Sri Lankan run-getter Sanath Jayasuriya and star Pakistani batsman Yousuf Youhana have failed to do justice to their stature in the previous two matches dominated by bowlers on seamer-friendly tracks.

The left-handed Jayasuriya, with 9,062 runs and 16 centuries in 302 one-days, could not score against Pakistan and contributed 33 in the second game against New Zealand.

Sri Lanka expect him to show the way in the second-leg of preliminary league matches on seaming tracks where their batting has left a lot to be desired.

"There has been a long slump in

our batting and I hope things improve in the remaining matches," said Sri Lankan captain Marvan Atapattu, whose team made 120 against Pakistan before struggling to reach a 139-run target against New Zealand.

Jayasuriya holds the key to his team's fortunes, for he is not only the most experienced batsman in the squad but also has the shots to dominate bowling on any surface.

Like Jayasuriya, Youhana also has not fired in the first-leg matches.

The stylish middle-order Pakistani batsman, with 4,491 runs and eight centuries in 133 one-day internationals, made two brief visits to the crease as he made one against Sri Lanka and nought against New Zealand.

Pakistani captain Rashid Latif said he expected an improved performance from his batsmen in the remaining matches.

"We are capable of batting better," he said.

"Our performance was satisfactory in the first-leg considering the

## Nat'l youth hockey Barisal beat Rangamati

UNB, Dhaka

Barisal defeated Rangamati 2-1 in their opening Group G appearance of the National Youth Hockey Championship at the Maulana Bhasani National Stadium yesterday.

With the day's victory, Barisal need just a win against Faridpur in their remaining match today to assure group title as well as reach the final round.

Abu Raihan and Imran Pervez scored one each for the winners while Bikram Marma netted the lone goal for the losers.

In the day's other fixture, Kishoreganj got walkover against Rangpur as they did not field their team.

## Div I b'ball

UNB, Dhaka

Rangers Club earned a convincing 51-37 victory over Harnets SC in the Metropolis First Division Basketball League at the Dhamondi wooden-floor gymnasium yesterday.

The match was locked in 24-24 during the first half.

Mamun and Shamiul caged 18 each, Sujon 12 for the winners while Faruk scored 15 for the losers.

In the day's other match, The Gregarious Club got walkover against the Saints Club at the same venue.

# Rookie trio for England



REUTERS, London

England named three uncapped players James Anderson, James Kirtley and Anthony McGrath in a 13-man squad for next week's first Test against Zimbabwe.

Anderson, the 20-year-old Lancashire seamer, was England's most successful bowler in the World Cup with 10 wickets, while Sussex pace bowler Kirtley and McGrath, the Yorkshire captain and all rounder, have made impressive starts to the county season.

Wicketkeeper Alec Stewart, 40, kept his place for what will be his 127th Test match.

"It's a balance of winning today and planning for the future," chairman of selectors David Graveney told the BBC on Saturday.

"Most of the discussion was about the wicketkeeping position. And after lengthy discussion we

unanimously decided to stick with Alec. He is a world-class player."

Kirtley replaced Andy Caddick, who has a foot injury, but England also have fitness concerns over all rounder Andrew Flintoff who was named in the squad despite suffering from a shoulder problem.

"Our chief medical officer will continue to monitor the situation with Andrew Flintoff and we are hopeful that he will recover in time for the Test match," Graveney said.

"We discussed at length the type of player that we would need as cover for Andrew and we have gone for Anthony McGrath as a batsman who can share the role of fifth bowler with Mark Butcher.

Robert Key looks certain to continue in the middle-order after being preferred to the more experienced John Crawley.

"We feel that Robert is very much part of England's future," Graveney added. "But we would stress that John Crawley has not let England down in the past and he has certainly not been removed

from our future plans.

"James Kirtley has been part of the international set-up before at one-day level and has been in good form for Sussex this season. He fully deserves a chance in the longer form of the international game.

England's bowling has been weakened by the absence of the injured Darren Gough and Craig White, so the hosts are likely to field an inexperienced new-ball pairing of Anderson and Steve Harmison, who has played in only five Tests.

Anderson, who dismissed England captain Nasser Hussain on the way to a hat-trick in a county championship match this week, made his mark on the international scene in Australia at the end of last year.

He was not considered for the final two Tests of the Ashes series after flying home because of a family bereavement, but Graveney told Sky Sports: "He was an outstanding player."

SEE PAGE 14 COL 5

## 2nd day of tour game rained off

INTERNET, Hove

The second day of the Zimbabwe's four-day tour match against Sussex at Hove was abandoned without a ball bowled on Friday. Play was called at 1600 GMT.

But, despite the occasional respite from the rain, play was never able to resume on Day Two of the tour match.

The touring Zimbabwe side had earlier put themselves in a commanding position after a superb century by Mark Vermeulen.

Vermeulen had played himself into form in timely fashion on Thursday with an unbeaten 194 a week before the first Test against England at Lord's.

The opener hit a six and 32 fours as he batted through the day to finish just four runs short of a career best score.

SEE PAGE 14 COL 1

# Arsenal's FA Cup solace



AFP, Cardiff

Arsenal won a tense battle with Southampton at the Millennium Stadium on Saturday to claim the FA Cup and salvage a season of heartache after seeing the Premiership slip away.

A first half goal by Robert Pires was enough to seal a 1-0 victory and saw Arsenal win the FA Cup for the ninth time and go just one behind Manchester United in the all-time records and become the first side since north London rivals Spurs (1980/81) to retain the Cup.

The Cup final was played inside for the first time in its 133-year history when the FA decided to have the roof pulled across at the stadium to keep out rainstorms.

And it turned the Millennium Stadium into a theatre of drama with the Saints seeing goalkeeper Antti Niemi stretched off, Arsenal counterpart David Seaman - in possibly his last game - pull off a brilliant save to prevent one last gasp equaliser and the Gunners forced to desperately defend their lead until the final whistle.

Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger had insisted that winning the FA Cup would be no consolation for losing the Premiership title to eternal rivals United. But he was the first out of the bench with his arms aloft when referee Graham Barber blew the final whistle.

Saints manager Gordon Strachan sent his players into the game with an order to block out the Gunners.

SEE PAGE 14 COL 5



PHOTO: AFP

**Arsenal French star Robert Pires gives thumbs-up to his teammates after he scored the only goal against Southampton in the FA Cup final at Cardiff yesterday.**

# Heath for better warm-up



AFP, Hove

Zimbabwe captain Heath Streak has said he wished his side had faced better teams ahead of next week's opening Test against England at Lord's on Thursday.

In last week's tied match against Worcestershire both former Zimbabwe turned England batsman Graeme Hick and South Africa fast bowler Nantie Hayward were missing.

And in their current match, against Sussex, the home team have left out Pakistan leg-spinner Mushtaq Ahmed, England one-day international paceman James Kirtley, former England batsman and club captain Chris Adams as well as improving all-rounder Robin Martin-Jenkins.

Streak, speaking after Friday's second day of a scheduled four was

washed out completely, said he understood why counties were keen to rest key players.



HEATH STREAK

But the fast bowler, some of whose team's batsmen may have had extra time at the crease

because of the counties' selection policies, added: "Obviously, yes we would like to play against stronger county sides; around the world you see state sides or provincial sides putting out their strongest possible team."

"They try not to let the touring side dominate, making sure they have a tough time in their warm-up games."

"We would have liked to have played a stronger Sussex side but they have also got injury concerns."

During the past 20 years it has become commonplace for English counties, keen to protect their stars for more lucrative domestic competitions, to field under-strength teams.

English cricket chiefs tried to remedy the problem by bringing in sponsorship money for tourist games but that was withdrawn ahead of this season.

SEE PAGE 14 COL 4

## SACA recognised

REUTERS, Johannesburg

South African cricket's professional arm, Cricket SA (CSA), has formally recognised the South African Cricketers' Association (SACA).

The decision was taken at a CSA board meeting in Johannesburg on Friday, a United Cricket Board (UCB) statement said on Saturday.

CSA's recognition of the SACA will only apply "in respect of the national players who are contracted to the company", the statement said.

"The board decided not to involve itself in the relationship between the provincial affiliates and (the) SACA as provincial players are employed by those affiliates. The affiliates may decide to deal with the players' association as they see fit."

The decision is likely to be seen as an attempt to defuse tension between the UCB and the SACA.

The UCB has in the past seemed reluctant to deal with the SACA, which represents most of South Africa's professional cricketers.