# Sport

#### Saints slam Leeds Strachan bid

#### AFP, London

Southampton chairman Rupert Lowe has accused English Premiership rival's Leeds of breaking every rule in the book in their bid to poach manager Gordon Strachan.

Strachan has emerged as the favourite for the Elland Road job following the departure of Peter Reid, but Lowe insisted Saturday that he has received no official approach from Leeds

"Strachan is very happy at Southampton and we are very happy with him," Lowe told The Sun newspaper. "But Leeds are breaking every rule in the book. We have heard nothing from them and I have definitely not been in talks with Leeds. But I know they are trying to dislodge Gordon as our manager. They are trying to induce him by putting things out through the media."

#### Kirtley staying FROM PAGE 13

Anderson's injury was England's second blow in the space of 24 hours after Steve Harmison, the main strike bowler, failed a fitness test on his injured lower back

"The opportunity to play would be great but my concern now is for Jimmy (Anderson)," said Kirtley picked originally only for the one-day series currently being played.

"He has worked very hard over the summer and when he is in the team England have a very good side."

### There should

FROM PAGE 13 Indian coach John Wright said he doubted the controversy would affect the touring side in Australia.

"That story has developed since we left the country and really it will run its

course," Wright said on Saturday. "We really have no knowledge of it

whatsoever, so it will not be unsettling to the touring party at all. The scandal is the biggest to hit Indian cricket since the match-fixing

saga in 2000 which led to life bans on former captain Mohammad Azharuddin and ex-Test player Ajay Sharma and five-year bans for internationals Ajay Jadeja and Manoj Prabhakar.

Kale faces a life-ban if found guilty.

### Ganguly admits

FROM PAGE 13 World Cup and the fast bowlers took wickets.

"At the end of the day, whether it's the one-day game or Test cricket, you've got to put the ball in the right place and take wickets," he said.

Ganguly added his team had a core **REUTERS,** London of experienced batsmen who had Former Manchester United and toured Australia before, and that India's once lamentable overseas Scotland striker Denis Law is battling prostate cancer. record had improved markedly in the

past few years. "We struggled a bit in the mid-90s, after surgery on Tuesday and is in good spirits, Manchester United said. out we've started to play well in the past

RUGBY TACKLE! Manchester United's Ruud van Nistelrooy is tripped by Blackburn's Andy Todd (L) during their Premiership clash at Old Trafford yesterday.

# Premiership **Nistelrooy lifts MU**

### Football

AFP, Manchester Ruud van Nistelrooy picked up where

points secured. he left off for Holland in midweek with his 12th goal of the season as Manchester United were made to sweat for a 2-1 win over Blackburn at first half, making both goals. Old Trafford on Saturday.

United had appeared to be on track for a comfortable victory when Brazilian midfielder Kleberson added to van Nistelrooy's 24th-minute strike with the first goal of his United career, seven minutes before the break. But Blackburn got back into the

Football

Blackburn goalkeeper and in off the post from eight yards. match when Paul Gallagher's pass It was the Dutchman's fourth goal

United in 305 appearances and helped

the club to its 1963 FA Cup victory over

Leicester City, scoring the opening goal

in their 3-1 victory at Wembley Stadium.

second highest haul in the 20th century -

but famously "lost" six FA Cup goals

when an FA Cup match against Luton

Town was abandoned in 1961 with City

leading 6-2 at the time. Law did score in

the replayed match -- but City lost it 3-1.

In all he scored 41 FA Cup goals - the

beat.

allowed Australian midfielder Brett in the space of four days after his hattrick in Holland's 6-0 demolition of Emerton to spring the United offside trap just after the hour mark and the Scotland in their Euro 2004 play-off Old Trafford crowd had to endure a second leg on Wednesday

nervous finale before seeing the three Blackburn briefly rallied and Tim Howard had to make a good save to Quinton Fortune, starting in keep out a Matt Jansen header before midfield rather than at left-back, was United doubled their lead with a slick United's most influential player in the move in the 38th minute.

Van Nistelrooy chased down Roy The first came after a delicate chip Keane's pass through the inside right over Blackburn's back four that left van channel before cutting the ball back for Nistelrooy with only Brad Friedel to Fortune, who might have shot but opted instead to square the ball into The Dutchman was able to pull the the path of Kleberson, who finished ball down before lashing it past the with a precise side-footed shot.

Only the alertness of Friedel prevented Keane from making it three shortly before the interval, the

The national team was lacking ideas

and found very difficult to act as a

cohesive unit having only trained

today shows the lack of training. You

can't expect a combination without

working at least ten days with the whole

We will have to get the right resul

"How badly my players performs

together for a couple of days.

team," said a dejected Tipu.

American keeper getting down smartly to keep out a fierce drive from the Manchester United skipper. It was a totally different story after

> the interval however as Blackburn took the game to United. Dwight Yorke had a goal ruled off

for offside before Emerton's superbly timed run allowed him to get clear of the United back four and score with a chipped finish that van Nistelrooy would have been proud of.

That set the scene for a final onslaught but despite large amounts of territorial domination, Blackburn never seriously threatened Howard's goal in the closing stages.

title because of that. But nine months

have passed and look everything has

changed. Actually nobody is serious to

care for us these days," observed

also agreed with Mamun.

Midfield workhorse Arif Khan Joy

"You see not a single top BFF official

came to see the match, so you can

easily understand that how indifferent

Mamun

they are

FROM PAGE 13

ENGLAND (probable): Michael Vaughan (captain), Ian Blackwell, Rikki Clarke, Paul Collingwood, Andrew Flintoff, Ashley Giles, **Law's cancer battle** Alfaz spares seniors Richard Johnson, James Kirtley, Chris Read, Andrew Strauss, Marcus Trescothick.

Dinusha Fernando

Tasmania

Tasmania jumped to the top of the

Sheffield Shield ladder Saturday when

they crushed Queensland outright by

174 runs on the third day of a sched-

uled four-day domestic first class

cricket match at the 'Gabba Ground in

The islanders, who have never won

go atop

AFP, Melbourne

Brisbane.

knock

victory in eight days.

three games.

with eight each.

FROM PAGE 13

runs in 96 balls.

Sunday

TEAMS

34 runs per innings.

PHOTO: AF

England aim

Australia to lift the World Cup.

He has played in 42 one-day

A new-look Sri Lankan pace attack

including two debutants destroyed

the English top order in Tuesday's

More sunshine is expected on

match, dismissing them for just 88.

internationals and scored 998 runs at

#### Zia pulls out FROM PAGE 13 **REVISED SQUAD**

Inzamamul Haq (captain), Imran Farhat, Saleem Elahi, Yasir Hameed, Yousuf Youhana, Shoaib Malik, Abdul Razzaq, Azhar Mahmood, Moin Khan, Danish Kaneria, Shabbir Ahmed, Mohammad Sami, Shoaib Akhtar, Misbahul Haq, Umar Gul.

# Latif in hot water again

Cricket AFP, Karachi

Needing 343 for victory in their Former Pakistan cricket captain and second innings, Queensland collapsed wicketkeeper Rashid Latif faces again and were all out for 168 after disciplinary action for criticising being skittled for 104 in their first Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) and its policies in a critical television inter-Pace trio Gerard Denton (4-60), view, an official said Friday

Damien Wright (3-33) and Andrew "Latif has been served a show Downton (3-47) wrecked the cause notice for a television interview Queensland batting as Tasmania and the PCB disciplinary committee wrapped up their second outright headed by Justice (retired) Amir Alam will hear the case on a date to be announced later," said PCB spokesthe domestic four-day competition, man Samiul Hasan

surged to the lead with 14 points from Latif, whose fight against match fixing has put his career at risk, admit-They lead South Australia on 12 ted that he breached the players' code and New South Wales and Victoria of conduct but stands by claims aired Thursday night that the board's selection process was frought with inconsistencies

"I couldn't wait and told the public whatever I felt was wrong," Latif told this news agency

then chairman PCB Taugir Zia intervened in the selection process and that detracked the rebuilding process which started off well," Latif had said. He also criticised the PCB's chief selector Aamir Sohail and Javed in a newspaper column earlier this week.

Latif, who has played 166 onedayers and 37 Tests for Pakistan, pulled out of the two-match Test series against South Africa last month.

He was asked to abandon retirement plans and lead Pakistan's revamped side after their first round

resignation from the captaincy. He was left out of the team which faces New Zealand in a five-match one-day series next week.





exit from the World Cup in March.

He led Pakistan in the quadrangu-

lar tournament win in Sharjah, to a

runners-up spot in a tri-series in Sri

The Daily Star

#### **RASHID LATIF**

Lanka in May and then a 2-1 loss in the one-day series in England in June.

and was reprimanded by the PCB.

"Speaking truth in Pakistan cricket

is a sin," Latif said, adding that he

regretted coming out of retirement,

saying he was only used as a tool in the

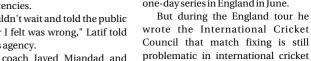
He was suspended for five one-day

matches on claiming an unfair catch

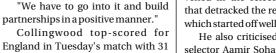
in the Multan Test against Bangladesh

two months ago which followed his

rebuilding process.



rugby counterparts heroically beat "The coach Javed Miandad and Collingwood insisted: "We are looking forward to tomorrow's game.



few years, whether it's in England, the West Indies or the World Cup," he said.

"It's an aim for us to do well overseas and to play against the best side in the world will be a great challenge for us and we're really looking forward to it.'

India play Victoria in a three-day game in Melbourne, starting on Tuesday

The first Test in Brisbane starts on December 4

#### Mashrafee faces FROM PAGE 13

during a practice session before the third match against West Indies.

Mashrafee was back to bowling in the home series against South Africa and then toured Australia and Pakistan earlier this year before breaking down yet again in Chittagong on October 31.

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Medical staff said his operation had gone well, the club added.

Law, 63, is recovering in hospital

Law's daughter Diana, who works for Manchester United, said his family were confident he would make a full recovery

Law made his league debut as a 16vear-old with Huddersfield Town in 1956 before joining Manchester City for a then British record fee of 55,000 pounds in 1960 before another move to Torino in 1961

After little more than a year in Italy he became Britain's first 100,000 pounds player when Matt Busby signed him for Manchester United in 1962.

Nicknamed "The King" and part of United's glorious Sixties triumverate with George Best and Bobby Charlton,

He won two League Championships with Manchester United in 1965 and 1967 and was named European

Footballer of the Year in 1964, but he missed the 1968 European Cup final success over Benfica because of injury.

In April 1974 he back-heeled a goal for City in a Manchester derby at Old Trafford, which sealed United's relegation to the former second division. It was a goal he never applauded and was also his last touch in league football.

He retired after winning the last of his 55 caps for Scotland in the 1974 World Cup finals having scored a total of 300 goals in 585 club matches and has since worked in the media.

he remained at United until 1973 before leaving for a final season back at Manchester City.

Law scored 171 league goals for

#### at home otherwise it will be very difficult in the second leg on November 30 because we will be playing minus ten degrees in Dushanbe," said the Bangladesh coach.

FROM PAGE 13

goalmouth scramble

National defender Hasan-al-Mamun attributed poor training due to the Federation Cup, which concluded on November 20.

"We played five matches in space of nine days in the recently concluded Federation Cup that's why most of the players are tiered. Besides, some players are also carrying injuries. So, it is unfair to expect too much from us,' said Hasan Al Mamun.

But most of the national players complained of poor planning on the part of the Bangladesh Football Federation since their glorious victory at the SAFF Championship in Dhaka in January

"We had a tremendous preparation under Austrian Gorge Kottan for the SAFF Championship and we won the

#### Patrons Trophy Wessels' denial FROM PAGE 13

players

#### SQUAD

racist remark about two black players The Eastern Province Herald newspaper said on Friday that Wessels is alleged to have told Johann Louw at a net practice on October 23: Stop talking nonsense to those two animals, I want you to bowl now."

Louw was with team players Lyall Meyer and Deon Carolus at the time. Louw, however, has provided

Wessels's legal team with a sworn affidavit saying "the incident never took place," according to the newspaper

The initial complaint against Wessels was made to the Eastern Province Cricket Union by the chairman of club side Gelvandale, who Mever and Carolus play for.

Mushfigur Rahman (captain), Hannan Sarker (vice-captain) Moniruzzaman, Mazharul Haque, Rajin Saleh, Mushfiqur Rahman Manjarul Islam, Jamaluddin, Anwar Hossain Munir, Mohammad Ashraful

Ehsanul Haque, Shahriar Hossain, Alamgir Kabir, Tareq Aziz Khan, Mohammad Salim (wicketkeeper) and Mosaddek Hossain.

#### Blair hails FROM PAGE 13

team can be proud of their performance, their spirit and above all their character," said Blair.

"It was a victory they worked for and the whole country can be proud of them," he added.

PHOTO: AF England's Paul Collingwood bats as Richard Johnson bowls during a practice session at Premadasa Stadium in Colombo yesterday. England and Sri Lanka meet in the third and final one-day international today.

## Jonny breaks Wallabies'

to the wire, with a string of handling errors in slippery conditions proving wide crucial as the tension mounted

England had been in control 14-5 at half-time courtesy of a Jason Robinson try and three Wilkinson penalties

Australia had got off to a dream start after only six minutes, a bold decision to kick for touch instead of taking a penalty rewarded by a try for wing Lote Fuqiri.

A beautifully weighted hanging cross kick from flyhalf Stephen Larkham caused panic in the England defence and Tuqiri raced up the touch line to outjump Robinson superbly and dot down

England regathered quickly and got their first points on the board shortly afterwards however, when Flatley conceded a penalty for coming off his feet at a ruck. Wilkinson slotted the 45metre kick with typical precision.

Slowly England managed to gener-Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I OWN HOUSES IN ate some fluency, with Matt Dawson BOTH NEW YORK CITY AND ORLANDO, BUT I sniping around the fringes of the breakdown and linking well with his back-row

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for Wilkinson punished a late tackle by another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the Larkham on wing Ben Cohen with his puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe second penalty to put England 6-5 up,

but missed an opportunity to extend the lead when a drop-goal effort drifted

England should have crossed for their first score early in the second quarter but lock Ben Kay fumbled and a certain try went begging.

A lengthy injury time-out for Wilkinson caused nervous flutters in English hearts but the No.10 got to his feet and rejoined the action to the relief of his teammates

And moments later Wilkinson was kicking England into a 9-5 lead, potting his third penalty of the night after Australia flanker Phil Waugh was penalised for not staying bound in a

scrum, deep in the Wallabies 22. A missed penalty from Flatley was the closest Australia came to scoring for the rest of the half as the English forwards, with Richard Hill and Lawrence Dallaglio increasingly influential, tightened their grip.

Australia could find no way through an iron English defence, with centres Mike Tindall and Will Greenwood putting in some ferocious hits. Shortly before half-time England

scored. A sweeping move upfield ended

with Dallaglio bursting clear in space

on the left before feeding to Wilkinson. Wilkinson jinked brilliantly and found Robinson steaming up on the outside

for a wonderful score in the corner. Wilkinson missed the conversion but with a 14-5 half-time lead, England went in at the break firmly in control.

Yet their composure deserted them in a frenetic second half, as a series of handling errors frustrated their attempts to drive home their advan-

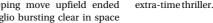
Despite Australia's line-out breaking down -- with three successive throws pilfered by England -- the Wallabies were somehow able to stay in touch.

Australia cut the gap to six points with Flatley's first penalty.

Try as England might though they could not make their forward superiority pay and Australia moved to 14-11 when Flatley notched his penalty after Vickery foolishly handled in the ruck. Handling errors infected England's

play. Tindall, Greenwood and Cohen were all guilty of fumbles in the face of frenzied defence by Australia with George Smith spoiling brilliantly.

And Flatley's late penalty set-up the



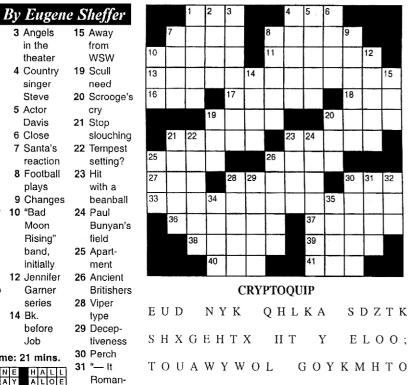
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CAN'T FIND THE FLORIDA KEYS.

"QDZE DT Y MHNQ!

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Q equals B

give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error