SPÖRT

Indian victory inspires John

AFP, Colombo

Sri Lanka coach John Dyson on Wednesday said he would help his team draw inspiration from India's historic win against Australia when the world champions play here in

"The Australians are vulnerable and we have to take inspiration from India and try to exploit that vulnerability when they arrive here in February," said the former Australian batsman.

India on Tuesday recorded a four-wicket victory at the Adelaide Oval as man-of-the-match Rahul Dravid scored a record 233 in the first innings and then saw his team through with an unbeaten 72 in the

"I think the Indians are a very, very good team. They have some very fine players and did a wonderful job," said Dyson, who played 30 Tests in the late 1970s and early

Lankan coach earlier this year from compatriot Dav Whatmore, felt it was a mammoth effort considering Australia's huge first innings score.

Dyson, who took over as the Sri

"Beating a team that got more than 500 runs in the first innings is a really huge task," said Dyson.

Australia tour Sri Lanka for three Tests and five one-dayers in February-March 2004.

Cairns eyes the double

AFP, Hamilton

New Zealand all-rounder Chris Cairns goes into the first Test against Pakistan Friday with his eyes fixed on becoming the sixth member of the exclusive club of world cricketers to notch 3,000 runs $and 200 \, Test \, wickets.$

After a string of injuries kept him out of the Test arena for nearly two years, the 33-year-old is back and fired up for his 56th Test.

He needs 147 runs and just three wickets to join Sir Richard Hadlee, Ian Botham, Imran Khan, Kapil Dev and Sir Garfield Sobers to achieve the distinguished double.

"I've got a bit of apprehension, a bit of anxiety but mainly excitement," Cairns said as the Black Caps trained here Wednesday.

"I'm not really motivated by statistics, but in this situation with 200 and 3,000 it is probably the one time I'll pay attention to it.

NCL set

FROM PAGE 13

League. Why did they not veto it then?" questioned Dipon.

But Babu did not agree with Dipon's side of the story saying, they had raised the issue several times and made it clear that they would not be able to give the venues from lanuarv l

The Youth World Cup, the third most important event on the ICC calendar after the World Cup and the Champions Trophy, will be held in eight different venues in the country. Those are Bangabandhu National Stadium, Fatullah Cricket Stadium, BKSP Cricket ground, MA Aziz Stadium in Chittagong, Chittagong Divisional Stadium, Khulna Stadium, Rajshahi Stadium and Bogra Stadium.

Besides, the grounds committee is also preparing another twenty odd venues to provide practice facilities for 16 participat-

"We are preparing 21 practice grounds with international standard apart from the eight match venues. It's a massive responsibility and if we are not given enough uninterrupted time to work in would be impossible for us with such limited manpower to complete everything on time," said Babu while defending the decision.

He also informed that ICC pitch consultant Andy Atkinson would fly to Dhaka in the first week of the new year to oversee and assist the on-going preparation.

38 Night flier

40 Commit-

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 White-

37 Compass

point



England's Mark Butcher (L) and Michael Vaughan during a practice session at the Sinhalese Sports Club ground

Lanka seek a result

Cricket

AFP, Colombo

Sri Lankan captain Hashan Tillakaratne and coach John Dyson on Wednesday criticised England for showing a negative attitude during their ongoing Test series

"England have been playing negative cricket during this series, said Tillakaratne. "We've made some sporting declarations but they've never thought about win-

England staved off defeat by just one wicket in the opening Test at Galle and had three wickets in hand in their second innings at Kandy after being set a 368-run target.

The final Test commences at the Sinhalese Sports Club (SSC) ground here on Thursday.

"I don't think we set improbable targets or played too safe in either of the matches. We never had the fear of losing," said Tillakaratne, who hoped the series would not end with a 0-0 scoreline.

"The pitch here might help seam bowling a little but looks like a good batting track and it would be disappointing if this match too ends in a draw," said Tillakaratne

Sri Lanka's Australian coach

"England's attitude was bad. Had they lost a couple of wickets and then decided to play for a draw in Kandy, it would have been understandable. But they went for a draw from the beginning," said Dyson.

"The pitch in Kandy was good, the outfield fast and their most experienced batsmen were in the middle. They should have gone for

Dyson had a sarcastic dig at the English team and alleged that they had resorted to time-wasting tactics during the second Test. "We bowled good over rates, didn't need much water and our

oves stayed dry. We probably don't sweat as much as they do from the fear of losing," said Dyson. "Officials should penalise players who resort to wasting time."

Dyson felt the Sri Lankan batsmen could revel in the bouncier conditions at the SSC ground.

"Sanath (Jayasuriya), Marvan (Atapattu), Kumar (Sangakkara) and Mahela (Jayawardene) all like the ball to come on to the bat and could plunder the attack if they get going, * said Dyson.

England captain Michael Vaughan was hoping to make full use of the seaming conditions.

"We need to beef up our pace attack and are thinking of dropping Dyson too blamed England for the draws, especially in the second

James Kirtley was the only spe-cialist seamer at Kandy while Richard Johnson and Matthew Hoggard played at Galle, apart from all-rounders Andrew Flintoff and

Paul Collingwood, who played both

"We have to take some hard decisions for our match tomorrow. We may have to drop either (Nasser) Hussain or Collingwood," said

Former captain Hussain led England to a 2-1 victory in Sri Lanka two years ago while Collingwood came up with some useful knocks in the first two Tests.

TEAMS

SRI LANKA (from): Hashan Tillakaratne (captain), Marvan Atapattu, Sanath Jayasuriya, Kumar Sangakkara, Mahela Jayawardene, Thilan Samaraweera, Michael Vandort, Romesh Kaluwitharana, Muttiah Muralitharan, Kumar Dharmasena, Upul Chandana, Chaminda Vaas, Dinusha Fernando, Dilhara Fernando, Tillakaratne Dilshan.

ENGLAND (from): Michael Vaughan (captain), Marcus Trescothick, Mark Butcher, Nasser Hussain, Graham Thorpe, Andrew Flintoff, Rikki Clarke, Gareth Batty, Paul Collingwood, Robert Croft, Ashley Giles, Matthew Hoggard, James Anderson, Richard Johnson, James Kirtley, Chris Read, Geraint

Awesome Abahani, sorry MSC

FROM PAGE 13

minute (3-1).

Maxim completed his treble with the best goal of the match 10 min-utes into the second half. After being fed by Parvez from the left, the big forward tore apart the Wanderers defence and bamboozled his way through three players including goalkeeper Himu before placing the ball into the far corner of the net with a measured left footer (4-1).

Maxim was taken off soon after for a well-earned rest but even that didn't end Abahani's hunger. Khokon made it 5-1 in the 78th

minute while Brazilian Alesandro Santos drove the last nail in Wanderers' coffin with an angular shot from the right seconds from the final whistle (6-1). **TEAMS**

By Eugene Sheffer

25 Hope-

Crosby

53 "A Chorus

Line

3 Remark

to the

ABAHANI: Nijam, Mahmudul Hasan (Shiraji), Masud Rana, Osamanu, Sila, Parvez, Joy (Pranotosh), Rakib, Sandro, Khokon and Maxim (Uzzal).

DHAKA WANDERERS: Himu, Dulal, Jahangir, Selim, Hanif (Tareq), Ritu, Monir, Yusuf (Dalim), Yusuf Ali, Shipon and Williams (Shahin).

MSC-0, SHEIKH RUSSELL-

Referee: Tayeb Hassan.

Mohammedan failed to repeat their last month's Federation Cup heroics against the same opponents whom they had defeated 4-1.

The Black and Whites dominated the first half and came close to scoring twice, but poor finishing from forward Farhad and Cameroon midfielder Efinga let them

Farhad, the highest paid local booter in Mohammedan's ranks, spoiled the best opportunity in the 26th minute when he only needed to slot the ball into the net. But the veteran campaigner went for power and sent it over the cross-piece.

Efinga, one of the three Cameroonian booters who played for Mohammedan yesterday, then missed another chance in the 33rd minute as his firm header was brilliantly saved by Sheikh Russell defender Narayan from the

In the second session, it was Sheikh Russell who gave Mohammedan a good run for their money. But they were denied an upset by some terrific goalkeeping from Mohammedan's Liberian custodian Chris Oasis.

As Sheikh Russel built on the pressure the Mohammedan players appeared desperate to hear the long whistle and left the ground on a relieved note when it finally blew.

Yellow card: Amin Rana Bakhtiar (Mohammedan) and Asif (Sheikh Russell). TEAMS

MOHAMMEDAN SC: Chris, Basala, Jewel Rana, Faisal, Amin Rana, Rony, Monju, Efinga (Nakib), Afala, Bakhtiar and Farhad (Khokon Das). SHEIKH RUSSELL: Apel, Biplab, Bardip Mohammad, Narayan Mintu, Kamal, Asif, Abdel Ali, Fattah, Milan and Rashidi Referee: Ramkrishna Ghosh.

Taekwondo meet

Out of the total budget of Tk 170,000, tournament sponsors ROK Embassy will give Tk 118,000 to run the meet while the remaining amount will be provided by the federation.

Participating teams: Bangladesh Army, Rajshahi University, Chittagong University, Open University, Bangladesh Ansars & VDP, Rajshahi, Barisal, Cox's Bazar, Rangamati, Khagrachhari, Bandarban, Manikganj, Comilla, Narsingdi, Brahminbaria, Naogaon, Dinajpur and Natore DSAs.

Roddick, Federer & Ferrero tennis' new kings

AFP, Paris

It was all change at the top in men's tennis in 2003 as a new generation of players took over.

American Andy Roddick (21), Roger Federer of Switzerland (22) and Spaniard Juan Carlos Ferrero (23) finished 1-2-3 in both the ATP Champions Race and in the ATP Entry Rankings.

With last year's top dog Lleyton Hewitt of Australia running out of steam, Russia's Marat Safin wracked by injuries and Pete Sampras confirming his retirement, only evergreen Andre Agassi stood in their way.

Australia 8th in 500 blues

AFP, Adelaide

Australia became the eighth team in the history of Test cricket to lose a match after scoring 500 or more runs in the first innings against India here on Tuesday:

1894-95: Australia 586 and 166 lost to England 325 and 437 at Sydney by 16 runs.

1910-11: South Africa 506 and 80 lost to Australia 348 and 327 at Melbourne by 89 runs.

1928-29: England 519 and 257 lost to Australia 491 and 287 for 5 at Melbourne by 5 wickets **1952-53:** Australia 520 and 209 lost to South Africa 435 and 297 for

4 at Melbourne by 6 wickets. **1968-69:** West Indies 526 for 7 declared and 92 for two declared lost to England 404 and 215 for 3 at

Port-of-Spain by 7 wickets **1972-73:** Pakistan 574 for 8 declared and 200 lost to Australia 441 for 5 declared and 425 at Melbourne by 92 runs.

1992-93: Sri Lanka 547 for 8 declared and 164 lost to Australia 256 and 471 at Colombo by 16 runs.

2003-04: Australia 556 and 196 lost to India 523 and 233 for 6 at Adelaide by 4 wickets.

Hossain

16.1 overs to prompt the DHA follow-on, conceding a 294-run

Touring skipper Mushfiqur Rahman, who contributed 38 runs to his side, claimed two wickets conceding 31 runs in 9 overs while new ball bowler Gazi Alamgir also took two for 60 runs in 11 overs.

Tareq again struck in the second DHA innings with the right-hand paceman grabbing two wickets for 30 runs in 9 overs. Mushfiq, another right-arm pacer, took the other wicket conceding 40 runs in 15

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at stumps on the third day of a four-day Inter Department Cricket Championship (Patron's Trophy) match between Bangladesh A and Defence Housing Authority (DHA) at the Karachi National Stadium yesterday:

BANGLADESH A: First innings Hannan c Wasim b Nasir Shahriar c Aamer b Umair 218 Ehsanul lbw b Rizwan 16 Rajin c Aamer b Rizwan 11 Ashraful c Rizwan b Anis 45 Mushfiqur c Aamer b Rizwan Manjarul c Aamer b Umair Alamgir c Sharjeel b Umair Anwar c Aamer b Rizwan Tarek not out

Extras: (b-13, lb-18, w-6, nb-41) Total: (For 9 wkts dec in 127.3 overs) Fall of wkts: 1-0, 2-65, 3-95, 4-278, 5-373, 6-404, 7-421, 8-?, 9-?. 22 5 77 Nasir 35.3 5 101 Umair 7 116 Rizwan 10 58 26 42 Asmatullah 1 0 **DHA:** First innings Asif run out Asmatullah c Salim b Alamgir Mohtashim c Salim b Alamgir Aamer b Tarek

12 Wasim c Manjarul b Tarek Sharjeel b Mushfiqur Qureshi c Salim b Tareq Umbir b Mushfigur Rizwan c Salim b Manjarul Anis c Salim b Tareq Nasir not out Extras: (b-0, lb-2, w-0, nb-4) Total: (All out in 48 overs) Fall of wkts: 1-18, 2-18, 3-19, 4-36, 5-39, 6-87, 7-91, 8-134, 9-151, 10-158. O M R Bowler

Alamgir 11 0 60 Anwar 14 7 22 Tarek 16.1 2 36 2 31 Mushfigur Manjarul 7 DHA: Second innings Asif c Hannan b Mushfigur Asmatullah c Salim b Tareq 40 Mohtasim batting 74 Waseem c Manjarul b Tareq Asharjeel batting Extras: (lb-7, nb-1) Total: (For three wkts in 59 overs) Fall of wkts: 1-34, 2-68, 3-117 O M Alamgir 16 5 41 30 Tareq 9 1 15 6 48 Mushfigur 2 Manjarul 7

30 0 Rajin 5 0 0 0 Hannan 1 1 Toss: Defence Housing Authority Umpires: Ijaz Ahmed and Saleem

Match Referee: Shaukat Mirza The darling

FROM PAGE 13

Chappell, writing in the Hindustan Times, also hailed Dravid's stunning display. "India no longer has a cricket

team that relies heavily on one hero it now has a side brimming with that breed." Captain Saurav Ganguly, meanwhile, took a swipe at the Indian

media for predicting heavy defeats

in Australia before the tour began. "It does not matter what is written about us, but what makes us feel ashamed is that in no other country a team will be written off by its own media even before departure," Ganguly said in a signed article in the Hindustan

Proteas go 1-nil up

Cricket

AFP, Johannesburg

Shaun Pollock and Makhaya Ntini took crucial wickets as South Africa maintained a perfect home winning record against the West Indies with a 89-run victory on the final day of the first Test at the Wanderers Stadium Tuesday.

Pollock dismissed Ramnaresh Sarwan and West Indian captain Brian Lara in the first half hour of the day and followed up by having top-scorer Shivnarine Chanderpaul caught at fine leg.

He claimed the final wicket by having Corey Collymore leg before wicket as the tourists were bowled

out for 18871 minutes after lunch. Pollock took his four wickets for

Ntini, who took the first three wickets Monday evening, took one

more wicket Tuesday to finish with four for 53. He had match figures of

South Africa's win in the first match of a four-Test series gave them ix wins in six Tests against the West Indies in South Africa, following a 5-0 sweep in 1998-99.

The West Indies were in dire trouble overnight after Ntini reduced them to 31 for three Monday eve-

Their fate was sealed when Pollock trapped Sarwan leg before wicket in the fifth over Tuesday with a ball which kept low and followed up in his next over by bowling Lara, who made a double century in the first innings, for five. The tourists were 43

Chanderpaul and Ridley Jacobs put on 98 for the sixth wicket, a record for the West Indies against South Africa, before Jacobs was bowled by Andre Nel for 25 in the third over after lunch.

With South African captain Graeme Smith setting attacking fields, with as many as six fielders in the slip cordon, Chanderpaul scored briskly to reach his half-century off

> with 13 fours before he hooked Pollockto Nel at fine leg. Chris Gayle, barely able to walk because of a left hamstring injury he suffered in the field in the first innings, slogged and edged six fours in an innings of 26 before he was caught behind off Nel, making a South African win inevitable on a

> 63 balls. He made 74 off 91 deliveries

fifth successive hot, sunny day. South Africa's win was set up by a first innings total of 561 in which Smith and Jacques Kallis made centuries. Lara hit 202 for the West ndies but they were bowled out for 210, largely through the efforts of Ntini, who took five for 94.

It gave South Africa enough time to hurry to 226 for six in their second innings before setting the West Indies an unlikely target of 468 to

SCOREBOARD

Final scoreboard on the fifth and final day of the first Test between South Africa and the West Indies at the Wanderers Stadium on Tuesday: **SOUTH AFRICA:** First innings 561 (Kallis 158, Smith 132, Van Jaarsveld 73, Gibbs 60; Hinds 3-79, Dillon 2-96, Edwards 2-102, Collymore 2-118)

WEST INDIES: First innings 410 (Lara 202, Ganga 60; Ntini 5-94, Nel

SOUTH AFRICA: Second innings 226 for 6 declared (Smith 44, Rudolph 44, Kallis 44; Hinds 2-55)

WEST INDIES: Second innings (31-3 $Hinds\,b\,Ntini$ Gangalbwb Ntini Drakes b Ntini Sarwan lbw b Pollock Lara b Pollock Chanderpaul c Nel b Pollock Jacobs b Nel Gayle c Boucher b Nel Dillon b Ntini $Collymore\,lbw\,b\,Pollock$ **Edwards** not out Extras: (b-10, lb-6, nb-11) Total: (All out in 51 overs) Fall of wickets: 1-5, 2-18, 3-25, 4-41, 5-43, 6-141, 7-168, 8-176, 9-188 ОМ Pollock 17 6

Nel 13 3 49 3 0 18 Peterson Result: South Africa won by 189 Man-of-the-match: Makhaya Ntini.

Umpires: Simon Taufel and Darrell Hair.

53

Ntini

Akhtar after wickets

Heavy rains ruin pitch preparations

West Indies' Ridley Jacobs gets away from a rising delivery by Makhaya Ntini of

South Africa on the fifth and final day of the first Test at Johannesburg on Tuesday.

Cricket

AFP, Hamilton Shoaib Akhtar, the world's fastest bowler, is eyeing wickets and not speed records in the first cricket Test against New Zealand starting Friday as he leads a relatively fresh-

The Rawalpindi Express has 28 Tests to his name, the same combined total as Mohammad Sami, Shabbir Ahmed and promising legspinner Danish Kaneria. "There is a responsibility, I have to take it on. I'm going to be a big

faced Pakistan bowling line up.

part of the attack, I want to lead the way for the young team," said Akhtar, declaring himself fully fit after a calf muscle problem. And the sometimes erratic Akhtar knows that at his best he is

capable of destroying the New Zealand batting line up. In his last Test against New Zealand in Lahore last year he took six for 11 to dismiss the tourists for

73 in reply to Pakistan's 643. Senior New Zealand batsmen Stephen Fleming and Mark Richardson were among his victims to unplayable vorkers and the New Zealand team, which includes seven of Friday's line up, were dispatched by an innings and 324

But the volatile Akhtar has also

been in trouble for ball tampering, verbal abuse, throwing a plastic bottle at a spectator and on his last tour here in 2001 his suspect action was reported and he was sent home before the Test series which was squared 1-1. "I had a rough time last time

because of an injury and allega-tions against me," he said. "It took

me about one year to get over it. What is done is done, the circumstances are different and I'm pretty happy to be back. Akhtar has twice unofficially topped the 160 kilometres per hour

mark but said pure speed wasn't necessarily his goal here. "I'm a more mature bowler, I concentrate more on line and length now and I'm very sensible.

rather than bowling fast." Meanwhile, heavy rain has nindered wicket preparations for the first Test, threatening a repeat

"I'm after more wickets now

of last summer's batting debacle when India toured. Near constant rain for three weeks has created enormous problems for ground staff, desperate to stop Westpac Park becoming

a complete bowlers' paradise

which would be relished by Pakistan's fearsome quicks Akhtar,

Sami and Shabbir

"Ten days out is when you start pitch preparation, so the rain has affected us hugely," turf manager Karl Johnson said Tuesday. "We haven't been able to put in

the work we normally would have. Obviously we want it to be a flat track. We don't want too much seam movement, especially in Hamilton where the humidity is likely to cause a lot of swing any-Those issues came on top of concerns about last year's pitch for the Test against India when both

sides were dismissed for under 100 in their first innings, the game lasted less than two full playing days and 36 wickets fell for 507 While batsmen rightly hold concerns, New Zealand paceman

Daryl Tuffey has inspected the wicket and given it the thumbs up. "The pitch is looking pretty good and I'm not saying that as a bowler it should be a good cricket

wicket," he told the Dominion Frequent downpours recently meant ground staff were forced to replace the covers half a dozen times on some days, and the covers have been on so long, some of the grass surrounding the pitch is

INDIA: Second innings (37-0

47

37

Chopra lbw b Gillespie

Tendulkar lbw b MacGill

Ganguly C Katich b Bichel

Laxman b Bichel b Katich

Extras: (b-3, lb-6, w-1)

Dravid not out

Patel b Katich

Agarkar not out

Sehwag st Gilchrist b MacGill

turning yellow.

Dravid does the impossible

FROM PAGE 13

sweltering 40C (104F) temperatures but their outside chances evaporated when strike bowler Jason Gillespie was forced off the field with

a groin strain in the morning session. Dravid, who scored a record 233 in the first innings, was India's hero, finishing the Adelaide Test far and away the best batsman with 305 runs, and Australia were ruing a costly miss on him when he was nine in the

second innings. Dravid was dropped by wicketkeeper Adam Gilchrist off paceman Brad Williams on his way to his unbeaten 72 off 170 balls with seven fours.

Gilchrist got his right glove to the chance but the ball didn't stick giving Dravid a big life early in his innings. The Indians, who beat Australia

2-1 in the last series in India in 2001, lost master batsman Sachin Tendulkar and Ganguly in the mid-Tendulkar became the fourth all-

time leading Test run-getter before

he was out to an error of judgment

padding up in front of his stumps to

be lbw to MacGill for 37 off 59 balls

with five boundaries. Tendulkar partnered Dravid in a

70-run third wicket stand which took India to within 81 runs of victory.

Tendulkar, who leapfrogged England batsman Graham Gooch into fourth spot, has now scored 8,920 runs and is only bettered by Allan Border (11,174), Steve Waugh (10,788) and Sunil Gavaskar (10,122).

Ganguly was caught in the gully by Katich off Bichel for 12, leaving his team 170 for four and still 60 runs from victory. India lost openers Akash Chopra

(20) and Virender Sehwag (47) in the morning session. SCOREBOARD Final scoreboard of the second Test between Australia and India on the

fifth day at the Adelaide Oval on AUSTRALIA: First innings 556

(Ponting 242, Katich 75, Langer 58; Kumble 5-154)

INDIA: First innings 523 (Dravid 233, Laxman 148; Bichel 4-118) **AUSTRALIA:** Second innings 196 (Gilchrist 43, Waugh 42; Agarkar 6-

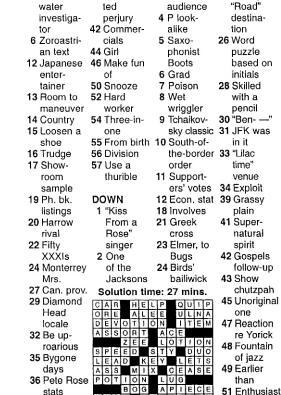
170, 5-221, 6-229 Bowler Gillespie 10.2 2 22 Williams 14 34 MacGill 101 24.4 3 Bichel 2 11.4 35 Katich 22 8 1 0 Waugh 4 10 Result: India won by 4 wickets and

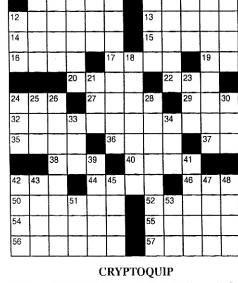
Total: (For 6 wkts in 72.4 overs) 233

Fall of wickets: 1-48, 2-79, 3-149, 4-

Man-of-the-match: Rahul Dravid

Toss: Australia. Umpires: David Shepherd and Rudi Koertzen.





EGFHZ VDHS "QFXH

TPO'IH DUJFSB EOS" QDH G P J H I ' Z QDHPIT

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF YOU BUILD TENNIS COURTS AND THEY'RE VERY BUSY, YOU'LL

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

IHGUQFJFQT?

HAVE TERRIFIC NET PROFIT. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: F equals I The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe

