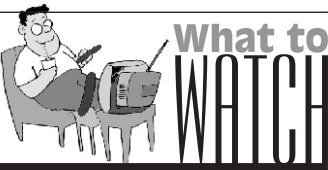




## Did U Know?

The first laws of soccer were drawn up at Cambridge University in 1848. Since then they have been rewritten and amended.



## What to Watch

### TEN Sports

**Sri Lanka vs England**  
Second Test, Day Three  
Live at 10:00 am

### ESPN

**Australia A vs India**  
3-Day Tour Match, Day-2  
Live at 5:57 am

### Primera Liga

**Valencia vs Sevilla**  
Live at 2:30 am (Sunday)

### STAR Sports

**Futbol Mundial**  
Taped Version at 9:00 pm  
**English Premier Football League**  
Arsenal vs Bolton Wanderers

Live at 8:54 pm

**New Zealand vs Pakistan**  
First Test, Day Two

Live at 3:57 am



## Talk Turkey



### Brian Lara

(West Indies cricket captain)  
"India are playing the best team in the world and we are playing against the second best team. I used some of India's strength. We are the underdogs and we need to fight."

**Star WHIZZ KID COMPETITION 203**

Tick the correct answers, post to  
**The Daily Star**  
Win attractive prizes

**Competition closes at 8 pm  
Jan 2, 2004 and draw**

1. Who clinched the Intercontinental Cup?  
Booca Juniors AC Milan Inter Milan

2. Who won the 2003 Asian footballer-of-the-year award?  
Mahdaviakia Inamoto Cpa Kyung-bok

3. Who is the Pakistan Cricket Board chairman?  
Shaharyar Khan Tauqir Zia Intikhab Alam

4. Who won the FIFA player-of-the-year award?  
Zidane Ronaldito Henry

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

## CA blackmailer bowled

AFP, Melbourne

A businessman who tried to extort money from the Australian Cricket Board (ACB) by threatening to publicise false allegations that bowler Shane Warne harassed his niece was fined 11,500 dollars (8,500 US) Friday.

Christopher Kent, 46, pleaded guilty to attempting to gain property by deception and using a telecommunications service to menace after an earlier charge of blackmail.

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# Ctg rattle Dhaka



### SPORTS REPORTER

Despite losing two early wickets, former holders Chittagong could be satisfied having restricted Dhaka to a score of well-below 200 on the second day of their Mirzapore Tea National Cricket League fixture at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

After dismissing star-studded Dhaka for only 143 the port city team ended the day on 61-2. Both wickets fell to wily Bangladesh left-arm spinner Mohammad Rafique.

At Rangpur first-round losers Rajshahi were within sight of victory against Sylhet.

Elsewhere, further overnight rain meant there was still no play between last year's champions Khulna and Barisal at the Jessore Stadium.

### DHAKAVCHITTAGONG

Dhaka, which started another delayed day precariously, placed at

75-4, saw their innings terminated fifty minutes after tea. The only batsman that offered any resistance was Halim Shah.

Although the seasoned right-hander battled for nearly four hours to make an unbeaten 39, his gritty innings that was watched by two Bangladesh Cricket Board selectors, could not prevent his side's first innings debacle.

Regarded as a consistent performer on the domestic circuit, Halim hit only two fours in his 208-ball knock.

The other batsman to reach double digits was the Dhaka skipper Khaled Mahmud with 26.

Young right-arm pacer Gazi Alamgir wrapped up the Dhaka innings picking up the last two wickets with successive deliveries to finish with 5-44. Off-spinner Yasin Arafat conceded 35 runs in 19 overs for his three scalps that included Mahmud.

Chasing the modest total, the port city team negotiated the initial scare from Bangladesh's highest wicket-taker Mohammad Rafique.

The left-arm spinner had Anisul

Hakim (8) caught by Naimur Rahman at slip and got rid of a well-set opener Masumuddin, who offered a catch to Rashedul Haq at gully making 29 off 48 balls that produced five boundaries.

But before that paceman Noyamur Rashid should have had Masum caught behind when he was on 16 but wicketkeeper Sajjad Kadir spilled the catch.

### RAJSHAHIVSYLHET

Away at Rangpur Cricket Garden, a 100-run sixth wicket partnership between Hasanuzzaman and Shamimul Haq guided Rajshahi to take a 98-run first innings lead against Sylhet.

Rajshahi scored 200 for nine declared in response to Sylhet's 102.

Sylhet again fell into trouble in their second innings losing two wickets for 15 runs when stumps were drawn.

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Dhaka's top scorer Halim Shah pads up a delivery from Chittagong spinner Sabbir Khan (not in the picture) towards forward short leg at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

## Badda earn full points

### SPORTS REPORTER

Badda Jagarani Sangsad got off to a winning start in the Western Union Premier Division Football League when they came from behind to beat Dhanmondi Club 2-1 in the lone match held at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium yesterday.

Trailing the first half 0-1, Badda staged a brilliant rally in the second session and scored twice to ensure full three points from their opening match of the 10-team elite league.

Johnny equalised in the 48th minute while Arup scored the winner in the 80th minute for Badda.

Earlier, Dhanmondi led the first half 1-0 with Kennedy finding the net in the 33rd minute.

Meanwhile, two First Division matches were also played on the day.

A second half goal from Talash in the 62nd minute guided Agrani Bank to a 1-0 win over Sadharan Bima Krira Sangstha at the Bir Shreshtha Shaheed Mustafa Kamal Stadium in Kamalapur.

In the other match played in Mirpur, Young Men's Club Fakirpool defeated Wari Club by two goals to nothing.

Shakil scored both goals for the winners.

# SL seize initiative



### AFP, Colombo

A superb century partnership between Thilan Samaraweera and Mahela Jayawardene helped Sri Lanka take command of the third and final cricket Test against England here on Friday.

The pair added 126 for the unbroken third wicket after Sanath Jayasuriya had slammed a robust 85 to provide a solid start.

Samaraweera (68) and Jayawardene (60) batted through the last session as Sri Lanka finished the second day at 264-2 in reply to England's first-innings total of 265 on a good batting track at the Sinhalese Sports Club.

Samaraweera was slow off the blocks but played a neat knock and hit just four boundaries, while Jayawardene batted fluently to crack seven fours in his third half-century of the series.

The pair showed fine understanding and played pace and spin with ease during their 162-minute stand after surviving a chance each

as Marcus Trescothick dropped two easy catches at slip.

Samaraweera was lucky to escape from left-arm spinner Ashley Giles on 14, while Jayawardene was dropped off seamer Andrew Flintoff when on 28.

"It was disappointing missing a couple of catches today especially the one off Flintoff, which was a regulation catch," said Trescothick, who took two other catches.

"It's a lot hotter here than at Kandy and we're finding it really difficult out there. Probably the back-to-back matches are proving hard and it's been really draining for us," he said.

Samaraweera restricted his shots in the beginning but later played some handsome drives and pulls during his 274-minute stay at the crease.

Jayasuriya was the first batsman to dominate the England attack as he returned to form with his first half-century of the series.

The left-handed opener paced his innings well and did the bulk of scoring in the first two sessions,

putting on 71 for the opening wicket with Kumar Sangakkara (31) and 67 for the second with Samaraweera.

The opener hit 12 fours and one six over long-on off Giles in his 26th half-century before being caught by Trescothick at slip off Flintoff.

Jayasuriya was more restrained in the afternoon session and was not given enough strike by Samaraweera, who slowed down the run-rate during the second session.

Sangakkara batted positively after being promoted to open the innings in place of Marvan Atapattu, who sustained a hand injury while fielding on Thursday.

Sangakkara struck six fours in his 42-ball knock before being caught by Trescothick at slip off seamer James Kirtley.

Earlier England lost their remaining two wickets in the opening six overs after resuming at 259-8.

Left-arm seamer Chaminda Vaas trapped Kirtley and James Anderson leg-before to finish with three wickets.

SEE PAGE 14 COL 2



Sri Lankan batsman Thilan Samaraweera plays forward defensive as England wicketkeeper Chris Read looks on day two of the Colombo Test yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

## Harbhajan has finger surgery

### REUTERS, Melbourne

India spinner Harbhajan Singh successfully underwent surgery on his injured right finger on Friday and his fitness will be assessed in Melbourne next week.

"I went off well and he's recovering," team manager Shivlal Yadav told Reuters by telephone from Hobart.

"He should be alright in a couple of days. It was on his spinning finger and the next finger."

The 23-year-old spinner took an amazing 32 wickets in India's 2-1 series win at home against Australia two years ago but bowled poorly in the opening match of the four-test series in Australia and missed last week's second test because of injury.

India lead the four-match series 1-0. The third Test starts in Melbourne on December 26.

Saurav Ganguly's India side are in Hobart for a three-day tour match which ends on Sunday.

# Gillespie to miss Boxing Day Test



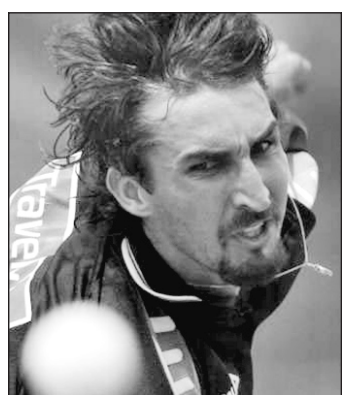
### CRICINFO, undated

In a big blow to a team already wracked by injury, Jason Gillespie has been ruled out of the Boxing Day Test between Australia and India at Melbourne. Gillespie, the most impressive of the Australian bowlers in this series, suffered an injury on the final day of the second Test at Adelaide, and was unable to take the field after lunch on that day.

Errol Alcott, the Australian team physio, said, "Jason has strained his right groin and although the medical staff is confident it will resolve over the short term, we felt it was prudent for him to miss this Test match."

"I'm pretty disappointed at missing this Test," said Gillespie.

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GILLESPIE

## BCB seek CAB's Grounds experts

### SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) is desperately looking for ways to continue the ongoing Mirzapore Tea Fifth National Cricket League as well as other domestic competitions despite ground preparation related difficulties due to the coming Under 19 World Cup in February-March 2004.

The country's lone first class competition was facing an abrupt halt after the Board's grounds committee informed that it will not be in a position to assign its existing manpower from January 1 for the National League as they will be busy working for the Under-19 World Cup.

But the tournament committee is hopeful that the League and some other competitions will continue as BCB president Ali Asghar is personally looking after the matter.

Asghar, accompanied by grounds committee chairman Shafiqur Rahman Munna, is scheduled to fly to the Indian city of Kolkata tomorrow in an attempt to arrange some grounds experts who will arrive in Bangladesh immediately.

"They will have talks with the officials of the Cricket Association of Bengal (CAB) and try to bring six experts for at least three months to solve the problem," said tournament committee chairman and BCB advisor Shah Nurul Kabir Shaheen yesterday.

He also said that they would be able to run the National League even during the youth cricket showcase and the Dhaka Premier Division Cricket League could also begin on schedule if the extra grounds people are available.

## Biman alone atop

### SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Biman maintained their solo lead in the First Division Chess League at the end of the eleventh round games at the NSC Conference room yesterday.

The leaders raised their tally to 41 points after beating Leonine Chess Club by 2.5-1.5.

GM Ziaur Rahman and IM Enamul Hossain Rajib won against GM Alexei Barsov and Md Monir Alam. IM Abdullah Al Rakib drew with GM Niaz Murshed while IM Reefat Bin Sattar lost against GM

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## WHIZZ KID-202 winner Prantar Das

(Udayan School)

Please produce your ID card and an attested passport size photograph while collecting the winner's prize from the Sports Desk of The Daily Star at 7:30 pm on December 28.

### WHIZZ KID-2002 correct answers

- Who has been named Australia's Test Captain?  
Ans: Ponting
- Who won the Rugby World Cup?  
Ans: England
- Who will lead the Bangladesh A team to Pakistan?  
Ans: Mushfiq
- Who won the Federation Cup title?  
Ans: Mukitjoddha
- Name the winners of the National Cricket Championship:  
Ans: Biman

# Fleming confounds Pak



### AFP, Hamilton

New Zealand captain Stephen Fleming cracked his sixth Test century as New Zealand built a solid base to be 295 for six at stumps on the opening day of the first cricket Test against Pakistan here Friday.

Showing no evidence of the abdominal strain that has troubled him for the past month, Fleming scored freely to all points of the ground to be unbeaten on 125 including 20 boundaries.

Although Pakistan fought their way back into the match with four wickets in the final session it was not the start they expected when

Inzamamul Haq won the toss and relished having New Zealand bat on what had the hallmarks of a bowlers' track.

Even though there was a green tinge on the pitch and scattered cloud overhead, the conditions did not hold the expected fears for the New Zealand batsmen who were assisted by a flood of no balls and the late withdrawal of the tourists'

trump card, Shoab Akhtar.

Lou Vincent was out early with the score at 16, but the arrival of Fleming at the crease saw New Zealand take charge.

He started cautiously before ripping three boundaries in one over from Shabbir Ahmed and then going on to feature in century partnerships with Mark Richardson and then Scott Styris.

Richardson reached 44 before he authored his own dismissal.

After surviving two run-out appeals, he chanced his luck once too often calling Fleming through for a quick single but failing to outstrip Umar Gul who picked up the ball on his follow-through and whipped off the balls at the striker's end.

Scott Styris (33) and Craig McMillan (22) both took the cudgel to Danish Kaneria before the young off-spinner tempted them once to often and both were caught at slip by Taufeeq Umar

Chris Cairns and Jacob Oram had brief stays at the crease before Robbie Hart brought some stability at the end to rise out the final 10 overs and be seven not out at

stumps.

Without Akhtar, the weight of leading the attack fell on Mohammad Sami who was not able to rise to the challenge and instead led an atrocious spree of no balls being guilty of firing 15 of the 30 sent down in the day.

Shabbir and Kaneria shared the wickets, while Gul toiled hard but could only claim the run out as reward after being thrust through the side at the last minute to replace Akhtar.

The Rawalpindi Express was pulled out an hour before the game due to calf and hamstring strains.

Pakistan manager Haroon Rashid said the injuries, picked up in the warm-up match against Auckland, were not serious but it was feared he would not get through a significant bowling workload.

It left Akhtar, the world's fastest bowler who has 107 wickets from 28 Tests, still waiting to play his first Test in New Zealand.

On the last tour here three years ago, Akhtar was sent home before the Test series after his bowling action was reported as suspect.

SEE PAGE 14 COL 1

# Love-struck Indians



### AFP, Hobart

Queenslander Martin Love stroked a honey-sweet 94 off the Indian attack here Friday to boost his prospects of stepping into retiring captain Steve Waugh's position in the Australian Test line-up.

On the opening day of a three-day clash against the tourists, Love starred for Australia A, who declared with a first innings 311 for five wickets at Bellerive Oval.

India were 37 for one wicket at stumps, with Test opener Akash Chopra on 12 and wicketkeeper Deep Dasgupta on 18.

Love is one of a number of candidates for 38-year-old Waugh's Test spot when the veteran quits the international stage after the Indian series next month.

Love said replacing Waugh was at the back of his mind.

"But it's there only because it

keeps getting brought up all the time," he said.

"Every question you get asked these days is about that."

"Ultimately, I've got to be scoring runs, or whoever's going to take that position has to be scoring runs at the time to force his way in and there's quite a few guys looking for that spot."

"All we can do is keep scoring runs and worry about it when the team gets announced for Sri Lanka in February."

Love, who has played five Tests as a fill-in batsman for an average of 46.60 - including an unbeaten century in his last appearance for Australia against Bangladesh, was by far the best of the contenders Friday.

Of the others, Victoria's Brad Hodge had a carefree few minutes at the crease before tea, making one before he was bowled by Ashish Nehra.

New South Welshman Michael Clarke was typically stylish in cracking 38 not out off 44 balls.

"It's disappointing not to get to a hundred," Love said.

"But we were pushing for some runs to make the declaration tonight. I played a shot that wasn't there to be played and got out as a consequence."

Love said the declaration came in the 75th over because "we want to win the game ... if we'd kept batting, there wouldn't be a result."

Australia A had 13 overs at India, with Matt Nicholson claiming the only wicket when a sharply rising delivery forced Sandagoppan Ramesh (four) to flinch, and the ball clipped the shoulder of the bat and flew to gully, where Damien Wright took a catch.

Nicholson, pressing for a Test recall amid an injury crisis among Australia's fast bowlers, finished with 1-10 from five overs.

At the start of the Australia A innings, Western Australians Chris

SEE PAGE 14 COL 2



New Zealand cricket captain Stephen Fleming cuts close to his body during his unbeaten 125 on the opening day of the first Test against Pakistan at WestPac Trust Park in Hamilton yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP