

## Column One

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Competition-125

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1. Who was the man-of-the-series in the Australia-Pakistan Tests?

Langer Ponting Inzamam

2. Who was the highest wicket-taker in the Australia-Pakistan Test series?

Akram Fleming McGrath

3. How many Test hundreds has Mark Waugh scored to date?

15 16 17

4. Who became champions in the Keya Premier soccer?

Muktijodha Mohammedan Arambagh

5. Who lifted the Expatriates' Open chess title?

Refaat Zia Tanveer

Name .....

Class ..... Roll No. ....

School Address .....

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## SPORTS TALK



### Steve Waugh

(Australia cricket captain)  
"He's quick, yes, sure and exciting to watch. Potentially he could be a very good bowler, but you've got to learn to take wickets."

On Shoaib Akhtar.

## ICC working on code of conduct

JOHANNESBURG, Dec 21 (Internet report): The International Cricket Council (ICC) aims to involve Test captains in expanding the code of conduct after accusations at the weekend that fieldsmen in both South Africa and England sides have been making "dubious appeals" which have placed extra pressure on the umpires, CricInfo reported on Tuesday.

According to CricInfo, a popular host of cricket news on the Internet, Law 42 note 1 explains that captains are responsible for ensuring that "play is conducted within the spirit of the game as well as within the laws".

The ICC code of conduct also places the fairness and spirit condition emphasis on captains.

Since the use of TV technology was introduced to judge line decisions, appeals for catches have been on the increase. And when the new law code is released, most likely in September, the fair and unfair play law is likely to be expanded to force the captains to play a more conciliatory role.

The ICC may even redefine the code to include a possible "captain's charter" with the match referee being given more scope to deal with so-called "cheats".

## Cute h'ball

Sports Reporter

Victoria Sporting Club outplayed Jatrabari Krira Chakra by 22-6 in a CUTE First Division handball league match at the court adjacent to the Bangladesh National Stadium yesterday.

The winners led the first half 11-2.

Noor Nabi scored highest 13 goals for the winners.

In the other match of the day, Prime Sporting Club earned walkover against Azimpur Samaj Kalyan O Krira Sangha.

The league committee has suspended Azimpur Samaj Kalyan O Krira Sangha from the league for failing to turn up.



Scene from the Prime Bank international rating chess competition yesterday.

—Star photo

## Ctg cruise on Akram century

Sports Reporter

Akram Khan cracked an unbeaten century to take leaders Chittagong in sight of a victory against hosts Khulna at the Jessore Stadium yesterday.

On the second day, the burly right-hander celebrated his maiden century in the National Cricket League with an unbeaten 118.

Propelled by the Akram ton Chittagong, resuming the day at 90 for one, piled up a mammoth 360 for 6 in 92.2 overs before skipper Minhazul Abedin declared the innings.

In reply, Khulna, who scored only 159 in their first innings, were tottering at 18 for 2 before the bats were taken off for the day. The home side needs another 183 runs to make the visitors regain on the final day.

With leg-spinner Shahed Mehmed, who took four first innings wickets, yet to bowl, Chittagong look almost set for their fifth successive win in the League. They took the solo lead in the six-team league with an outright victory (by an innings and 73 runs) over co-leaders Sylhet in their previous match last week.

And, with their big first innings lead the port city, who have 18 points from their six

previous matches, have at least ensured two batting points from this match. For a victory they might widen the gap from the chasers with four maximum points.

Back to the day's match, Akram, coming in to bat at number five with Chittagong at 108 for 3, shared 168 runs with his captain for the fourth wicket to lay the foundation of a big total.

The partnership was broken at 276 when Minhazul got himself out after scoring 69. In his 150-ball innings, Minhazul hit a six and three fours.

Akram added another 61 runs with Enamul Haque (31) for the undefeated fifth wicket. Akram faced 156 balls, smashed two huge sixes and four boundaries.

The former national captain is the fourth Chittagonian to score a century in the National League. His nephew Nafees Khan (173 against Sylhet), Azam Iqbal (105 against Barisal) and Minhazul Abedin (113 against Barisal) are the other three centurions.

### SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the second day of the three-day National Cricket League match between Chittagong and Khulna at the Jessore Stadium yesterday:

**KHULNA:** First innings 159 all out in 64.2 overs (Asadullah 51, Mofizul 17, S Mehmed 4/74, Zakir 2/23, Ziaur 1/11)

**CHITTAGONG:** First innings (overnight 90 for 2 in 28 overs)  
Azam Iqbal b Khairuzzaman 42  
Ehsanul Iqbal b Khairuzzaman 6  
Jahangir b Ahmed 41  
Minhazul c Sajid b Salaududdin 69  
Akram Khan not out 118  
Enamul c Mofizul b Salaududdin 31  
S Mehmed c Selim b Salaududdin 7  
Nurul not out 5  
Extras: (b-18, lb-4, nb-12, w-7) 41  
Total: (For 6 wks in 95.2 overs declared) 360  
Fall of wickets: 1/13; 2/102; 3/108; 4/276; 5/337; 6/351.

**Bowler** O M R W  
Khairuzzaman 20 4 55 2  
Ahmed 21 5 75 1  
Monirul 10 0 52 0  
Salaududdin 27.2 0 76 3  
Jamaaluddin 13 1 46 0  
Mofizul 2 0 4 0

**KHULNA:** Second innings  
M Ali b Zakir 0  
Selim retired hurt 4  
Sajid batting 0  
Masudul Iqbal b Anis 0  
Mofizul batting 3  
Extras: (lb-2) 2  
Total: (For 2 wks in 10 overs) 18  
Fall of wickets: 1/3; 2/7.

**Bowler** O M R W  
Anisur 5 2 4 1  
Zakir 4 0 10 1  
Enamul 1 0 2 0

## NATIONAL CRICKET LEAGUE CENTURIONS

Player	Team	Runs	Against	Date
Saifullah Makti	Sylhet	173	Chittagong	Nov 16
Nafees Khan	Chittagong	176	Sylhet	Nov 17
Tareque	Rajshahi	104	Barisal	Nov 17
Azam Iqbal	Chittagong	105	Barisal	Dec 3
Minhazul Abedin	Chittagong	113	Barisal	Dec 3
Akram Khan	Chittagong	118*	Khulna	Dec 21
Javed Omar	Dhaka	187	Sylhet	Dec 21
Rashedul Haque	Barisal	124	Rajshahi	Dec 21
Habibul Bashar	Barisal	101	Rajshahi	Dec 21
*not out				

## Dhaka jive with Javed

Sports Reporter

Opener Javed Omar belted his first century in their return-leg match of the National Cricket League as Dhaka looked all set to avenge their first-leg disappointment against Sylhet at Jessore Stadium yesterday.

The right-handed opener scored 187 as Dhaka, resuming the second day at 131 for 2, cruised to a commanding 358 for 8 in 97.2 overs before skipper Aminul Islam declared the innings.

Sylhet, shot out for paltry 121 on the opening day of the three-day match, were reeling at 41 for three when the stumps were drawn for the day. They will resume the crucial final day today with an intention to save the match. Sylhetis re-

quire another 196 runs to go even with the first innings score of Dhaka.

Javed, who began the day on 69 not out, mixed caution with aggression to take the score to 358 before got himself out at 187. It is the highest individual score in the League, eclipsing the previous best of 173 by Saifullah Makti of Sylhet against Chittagong in the first round last month.

Javed shared a fourth wicket stand of 138 runs with Aminul, who returned to form with a patient half-century. Aminul's 54 off 152 balls included six fours.

With the departure of Javed single-handedly steered his side to a match-winning total. In his 282-ball stay at the crease, the doughty Bangladesh opener hammered 28 boundaries.

Sylhet's right-arm pacer Neezamur Rashid captured three wickets for 77 runs while Iqbal Hossain and left-arm spinner Mohammad Rafique evenly shared four wickets.

Dhaka's medium pacer Khaled Mahmud, who took four wickets for 45 runs in the first innings, took two wickets for 13 runs to compound the misery of Sylhet.

Scoreboard on the second day of the three-day National Cricket League match between Dhaka and Sylhet at the Faridpur Stadium yesterday:

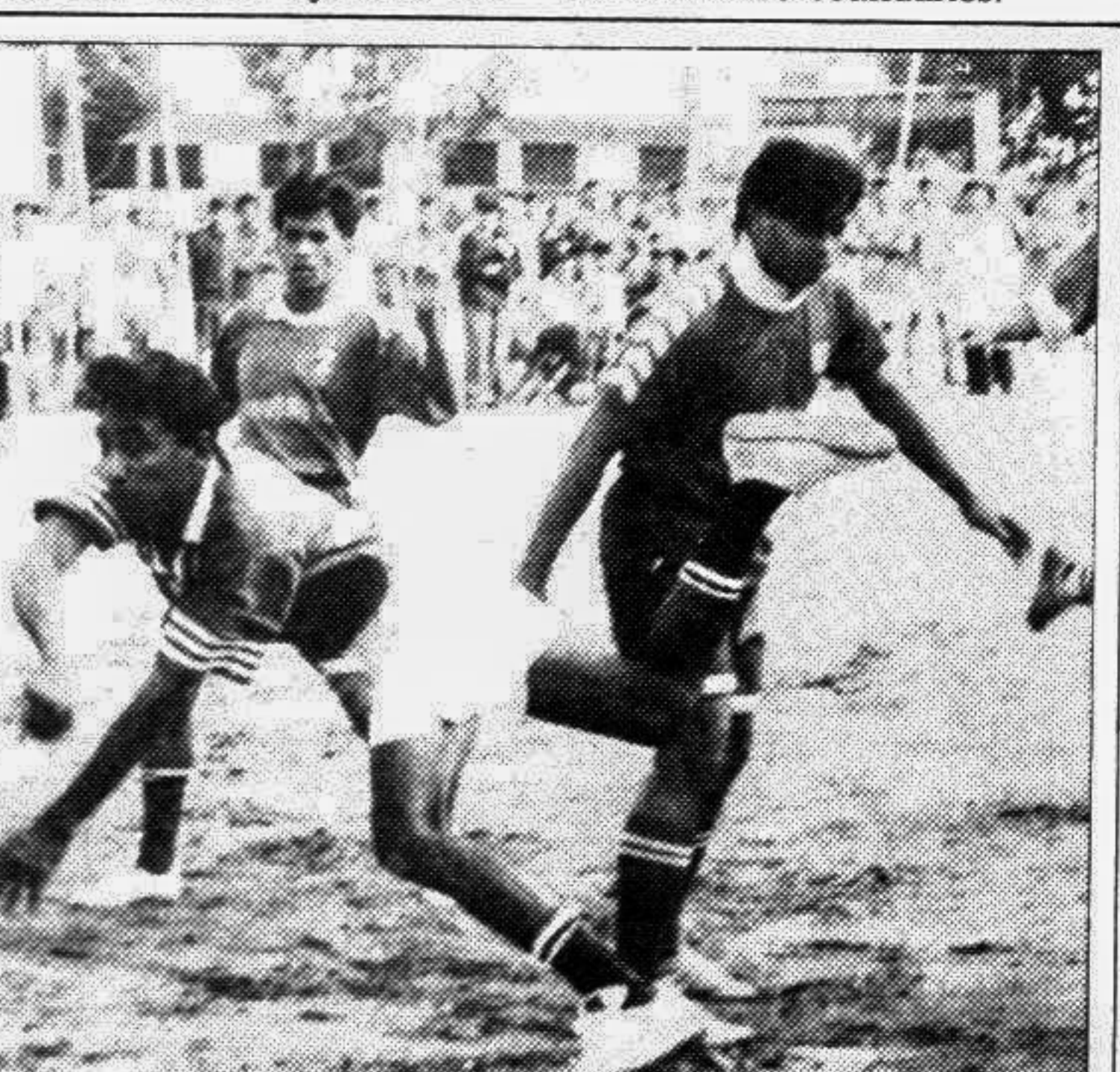
**SYLHET:** First innings 121 all out in 57.4 overs (Parvez 58, Rafique 19, Nasirul 10, K Mahmud 4/45, Morshed 2/8).

**DHAKA:** First innings (overnight 131 for 2 in 32 overs)  
Javed Omar c Tushar b Neezamur 187  
Harun c Saifullah b Iqbal 31  
Sanwar c Morshad b Rafique 31  
Al-Shahriar lbw b Iqbal 17  
Aminul b Neezamur 54  
Naimur c Saifullah b Alok 15  
K Mahmud b Rafique 6  
Masud b Neezamur 6  
Atiar not out 39  
Extras: (b-8, lb-12, nb-17, w-2) 39  
Total: (For 8 wks in 97.2 overs decl) 358  
Fall of wickets: 1/48; 2/109; 3/132; 4/270; 5/313; 6/323; 7/334; 8/358

**Bowler** O M R W  
Hasibul 18 4 84 0  
Iqbal 15 5 47 2  
Neezamur 25.2 7 77 3  
Rafique 33 4 91 2  
Mistu Das 5 0 18 0  
Saifullah 2 0 8 0  
Alok 1 0 13 1

**SYLHET:** Second innings  
Parvez c Masud b Morshed 10  
Alok c Aminul b K Mahmud 1  
Tushar batting 1  
Neezamur b K Mahmud 14  
Hasibul batting 11  
Extras: (b-5, lb-2, nb-4) 11  
Total: (For 3 wks in 15 overs) 41  
Fall of wickets: 1/15; 2/17; 3/41

**Bowler** O M R W  
Morshed 5 1 10 1  
K Mahmud 7 4 13 2  
Saiful 2 1 4 0  
Naimur 1 0 7 0



Action from yesterday's Cute First Division handball league match between Victoria Sporting Club and West Jatrabari.

—Star photo

## BCB for more cricket before Asia Cup

Sports Reporter

The Bangladesh Cricket Board is planning to hold a three-nation tournament before the Asia Cup, scheduled to begin in Dhaka in May next year.

According to a reliable source, the planned triangular tourney is likely to feature former world champions Sri Lanka and another Test-playing nation, the name of which is yet to be decided. Bangladesh will be the other team in the meet.

Although things are still in the preliminary stage, the Board is reportedly keen to hold the meet to celebrate the new millennium.

Besides, a limited-overs match between the World Eleven and the Asia Eleven in all probability will be held at the Bangabandhu National Stadium before the Asia Cup.

## Barisal thrive on twin tons

Sports Reporter

Barisal bounced back with twin tons from opener Rashedul Haq and skipper Habibul Bashar to take a massive first innings lead of 111 runs against day's play of their three-day National League match yesterday.

### BRIEF SCORES

**Rajshahi v Barisal**  
Venue: Barisal Stadium

**RAJSHAHI:** First innings 202 all out in 84.5 overs (Mushfiq 59, Farid 38; Monju 4/45, Moir 3/26)  
**BARISAL:** (Second day): First innings (overnight 20 for 2 in 8 overs) 313 all out in 93.5 overs (Rashedul 124, H Bashar 101; Mustadir 4/36, Saifullah 2/72, Nayan 2/68, Ripon 2/64)

Rashedul enthralled the home supporters at the Abdur Rab Serniabad Stadium with a magnificent 124 while Bashar hit a composed 101 as Barisal, resuming the day at 20 for two, piled up 313 before being all out in 93.5 overs.

Unbeaten on 11 at stumps on the first day, Rashedul reached his first ton in the National League with the reassuring company of Habibul Bashar, for whom it was also his maiden century in the meet.

The young opener clouted four sixes and ten boundaries in his 133-ball stay at the wicket. Bashar was however less aggressive at the other end. He needed 185 balls to reach the magical three-figure mark. He laced his innings with 14 hits across the rope.

The stupendous show of the duo came as a welcome relief for Barisal, who are languishing at the bottom of the table in the six-team meet. With only two points from their six previous matches, Barisal now have ensured another couple of points, leaving the visitors with a long day ahead to avoid a defeat or enforce a draw. If Barisal clinch an outright win they would however be able to manage four points today.

Rajshahi, who scored 202 in the first innings, will resume

See page 14 col 1

## Bayern seek Polish player

Sports Reporter

BERLIN, Dec 21: Bayern Munich coach Ottmar Hitzfeld said today the German champions were interested in signing Poland midfielder Slawomir Wojciechowski, reports Reuters.

"It is likely that he will join us during the winter break," Hitzfeld said of the player, who joined Bayern on trial from Swiss First Division Aarau on Monday.

The Bundesliga halted at the weekend and resumes on February 4.

## Of the talismanic No 10



MADRID, Dec 21 (Reuters): Following in the footsteps of such Brazilian heroes as Pele and Zico by wearing the revered golden number 10 jersey can prove an intolerable burden but Rivaldo showed he has the necessary pedigree by carrying off the 1999 European player-of-the-year award on Monday.

The Golden Ball award, given by France Football magazine, was almost as much for Rivaldo's part in helping Brazil to lift this year's Copa America as it was for hitting 24 goals in Barcelona's romp to their second successive Spanish league title.

After he demonstrated his stunning skills in only brief bursts for much of his early career, 1999 was the year when the 27-year-old from Recife finally flourished on a consistent basis.

His efforts for both club and country meant Rivaldo — born Vitor Barbosa Ferreira — became only the second Brazilian to lift the prestigious award after Ronaldo in 1997.

Down the left side of the field Rivaldo is a constant threat to any team, no longer drifting in and out of games, with the speed of a top-class sprinter allied to phenomenal dribbling skills.

Dutch legend was the Barcelona coach, that Bulgaria's Hristo Stoichkov won in 1994.

But Barcelona soccer fans feel that at least half another Golden Ball belongs to them.

Ronaldo was an Inter Milan player when he won two years ago, having moved across the Mediterranean to Italy during that summer but he played the first half of the year at the Nou Camp.

Then, as now, Rivaldo followed in Ronaldo's footsteps, joining Barcelona in August 1997 from Deportivo Coruna.

However it was hard at first for die-hard Catalans to forget their former idol and they jeered his Brazilian replacement for several matches after his arrival.

Barcelona's previous three winners all won at the height of their careers but many pundits feel that the best is yet to come from Rivaldo and that he can reach another level if he can fine-tune his mercurial skills.

Rivaldo has been voted the best foreign player playing his trade in Spain for the last two seasons by the Spanish soccer magazine Don Balon but the respected publication still felt moved to state in September, "Rivaldo has a problem."

"Every Sunday he demonstrates his obvious quality when he brings supporters to

was robbed while in possession and Nigeria pulled back a goal.

The Africans went on to win the game — and then the gold medal — while Rivaldo had to face the public derision at home, for Brazil coming up short in Atlanta.

It has taken him time to learn his lesson despite his grueling post-Olympic experience. "Everything is going to improve, I'll try and pass the ball more quickly," he said at the Copa America in Paraguay in June.

There are signs since then that, despite Barcelona's mediocre domestic form this season, he is fulfilling not only his potential but also that promise to himself. This year's Golden Ball may be the first of many similar honours to come his way.

### FACT-FILE

Facile on Rivaldo, the 1999 World player-of-the-year and European player-of-the-year:

1972: Born April 19, Recife, Brazil. Full name Vito Barbosa Ferreira.

1989: Signs professional terms at the age of 16 with Santa Cruz after impressing local scouts in a junior tournament.

1991: Signs for Brazilian First Division club Mogi-Mirim.

1993: Signs for Corinthians. Makes international debut in December, scoring only goal in 1-0 victory over Mexico in a friendly international.

1994: Regular international appearances during early part of the year but is not included in Brazil's World Cup-winning squad.

1994: Signs for Palmeiras. Wins Brazilian league championship.

1996: Wins Sao Paulo state championship with Palmeiras.

1996: Plays as an overseas member of Brazil's squad at the Atlanta Olympics, winning bronze medal.

1996: Moves to Spain to join Deportivo Coruna.

1997: Deportivo Coruna finish third in the Spanish First Division and Rivaldo plays in 41 of their 42 league games, scoring 21 goals. Recalled to Brazilian international side against Wales in November after lengthy absence.

1997: Moves to Barcelona in August for \$26.7 million dollars.

1998: Barcelona win Spanish League and Cup double. Rivaldo scores 19 league goals in 34 games.

1998: Plays in all seven games for Brazil in France '98 as they reach the final before losing 3-0 to the hosts.

1998: Fifth in the European player-of-the-year voting, sixth in FIFA player-of-the-year poll.

1999: Wins second Spanish league title with Barcelona, scoring 24 goals in 37 games, the second highest tally in the Spanish First Division.

1999: Wins Copa America with Brazil but gets sent off twice during the tournament.

1999: Voted World player-of-the-year by the World Soccer Magazine.

1999: Voted European player-of-the-year by France Football Magazine.



Rivaldo with the Golden Ball.

— Internet photo

Rivaldo, who wears the number 11 shirt at Barcelona, becomes the fourth player from that club to be crowned the European player-of-the-year.

Luis Suarez was the first member of the Catalan soccer giants to win the Golden Ball in 1960, the fifth year of its existence.

There was then a 13-year wait until Johan Cruyff won in 1973 and 1974 and it was under Cruyff's tutelage, when he

their feet with his dribbling, shooting and all the other rabbits that he pulls out of his magician's hat.

"But he plays in his own world, never bothers to go looking for the ball of his own accord and wastes opportunities with dumb errors," it scathingly added.

His tendency to dwell on the ball certainly cost Brazil dear in the 1996 Olympic semifinal match against Nigeria when he

## Lara not happy with third eye

## Kiwis call up Sinclair



WELLINGTON, Dec 21 (Reuters/Internet report): New Zealand on Tuesday offered batsman Mathew Sinclair his Test debut against the West Indies in the second match beginning on December 26.

Sinclair, 24, was called up to debut in the Boxing Day Test in Wellington to replace the injured Matthew Horne.

Horne's finger was broken by a delivery from West Indies fast bowler Franklyn Rose on New Zealand's way to a nine-wicket win in the first Test in Hamilton on Monday. New Zealand lead the two Test series 1-0.

The Australian-born number three right handed batsman has the highest first class career average of any current player in New Zealand — 45.96 — and averaged 104.60 in last year's domestic first class competition.

He also scored 182 for New Zealand A against England A earlier this season and was top scorer — albeit with a modest 38 — for the same side in their tour match against the West Indies.

Sinclair joined the New Zealand side on Tuesday having scored a further century in a trial match for his domestic side, Central Districts, on Monday.

"Certainly Mathew has played a great deal of pressure on the (New Zealand) incumbents. He now has the opportunity to demonstrate that he can carry his outstanding first class form into the international arena," New Zealand convenor of selectors Ross Dykes, said in a statement.

West Indies team meanwhile appears to be smug almost as much from third-umpire decisions as they are from the first Test loss to New Zealand.

West Indies captain Brian Lara yesterday called for a review of the process after it allowed Chris Cairns a second life when he appeared to be run out first ball in the Kiwis' first innings.

A player obscuring one camera's view and the unavailability of a back-up angle let Cairns off the hook. He went on to top-score with 72.

That gave New Zealand a valuable 28-run first-innings lead.

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The West Indies team was understood to be furious on Saturday at Cairns' non-dismissal but coach Viv Richards