

Go for... **DELL** COMPUTERS

from **SYSCOM**  
Tel: 912017, 812034  
Fax: 88-02-812259  
E-mail: syscom@bclonline.com

# Star SPORT

DHAKA WEDNESDAY MARCH 14, 2001 E-MAIL: dssports@gononet.com

**Dell OptiPlex**  
MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR MONEY

SYSCOM  
Tel: 912017, 812034  
Fax: 88-02-812259  
E-mail: syscom@bclonline.com



## Did U Know?

In the 1976 Olympics, Nadia Comaneci of Romania became the first gymnast in the Games' history to score a perfect 10. The 15-year-old did this in the floor exercise. She went on to record six more perfect scores during the Games. Comaneci was known for the boldness of her routines and her amazing composure. The difficulty of her performances and the high level of her technical execution resulted in a redefinition of the sport and of judges' and viewers' expectations of women's gymnastics. The young celebrity defected to the United States in 1989, in 1996 she married the American Bart Conner, a 1984 Olympic gold medalist. She and Conner have been pioneers in pairs gymnastics.



## Sadagopan Ramesh

(India Test opener)  
"I think I have got the basics right. I may not be the type who would get behind the ball and play it with perfection but I think I have the body balance right."



## What to WATCH

- BTV**  
Prime Minister Gold Cup  
China vs Egypt  
Live at 2:00 pm  
Bangladesh vs India  
Live at 4:00 pm
- DD Sports**  
Australia vs India  
First Test, Day Four  
Live at 9:30 am
- ESPN**  
New Zealand vs Pakistan  
First Test, Day Five  
Highlights at 2:30 am (Thursday)  
New Zealand vs Pakistan  
Second Test, Day One  
Live at 3:15 am (Thursday)  
Football Focus  
10:00 am  
UEFA Champions' League  
10:30 am and 9:00 pm
- Star Sports**  
South Africa vs West Indies  
First Test, Day Five highlights  
6:30 am and 7:00 pm  
Boys & Sunny Masterclass  
Cricket Talk Show  
8:30 pm  
Primera Liga  
8:30 am

## Sports WHIZZ KID

### Competition 145

✓ Tick the Correct Answers  
Post to *Star Daily*  
Win attractive prizes  
Competition closes at 8 pm  
March 16, 2001 and draw shortly afterwards

- Bangladesh beat Mongolia in the 2002 World Cup qualifier  
2-0 3-2 3-0
- Who clinched the Paris Indoor Open title?  
Huber Hingis Mauresmo
- Sri Lanka won the one-day series against New Zealand  
3-2 3-0 4-1
- How many Tests will Bangladesh play in five years?  
34 35 36
- Who lifted the national under-19 cricket crown?  
Chittagong Rajshahi BKSP

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

## A clean BCB, vows Saber

### Cricket

**AI-AMIN**  
President of the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) Saber Hossain Chowdhury has reaffirmed his pledge to hold his first meeting of the newly elected Board of Directors with a clean image.  
"I want to see that the elected directors sit at the meeting with their conscience clear and all the controversy removed," vowed the adamant BCB boss at his first encounter with the press on his return from Saudi Arabia after performing Hajj.  
"I wish to see that the cricket board act as a benchmark for others to follow as an ideal institution."  
Saber's bold assertions come amidst the storm clouds that gathered after the recent election of the Board, where allegations of 'cash for votes', use of muscles and political influence was published in the media.  
He also acknowledged that he

had received a letter from Mobbasher Hossain, who tendered his resignation only four days after being elected as one of the 16 directors from Dhaka-based clubs in February 25 polls.  
"It took a lot of courage to forgo such a demanding but lucrative post. I know him as a sincere and honest person. Besides, he can contribute immensely for the good of cricket," said Saber.  
The Board president disclosed that another director, whose identity he did not wish to reveal at the moment, sent a letter written in the same spirit of Mobbasher.  
On his acceptance of Mobbasher's resignation, Saber was unwilling to say anything until the three-member probe committee headed by the DG of BKSP Brig Gen Ahsan Habib produced their findings.  
"Without consulting all the directors it shouldn't be up to me to decide such an issue," he said while reiterating his position on not holding the Board meeting until the probe committee submitted its final report.  
Saber strongly ruled out claims that the probe committee was nothing but eyewitness.  
"I have already talked to the chairman of the probe committee to learn about the latest developments. I can tell you here and now that this will not be just like any other committee," remarked Saber.  
"The sports minister (Obaidul Quader) is very keen to see that the committee works with the real spirit. I believe that the DG of BKSP is an upright person and moreover, I'm ready to testify before the committee."  
The BCB boss sent a written complaint to the National Sports Council (NSC) citing various anomalies before the election.  
The Ministry of Youth and Sports formed the probe committee on March 1 following uproar from different quarters. The ministry gave it 15 working days to submit the report, which is expected to be complete by March 27.

## Independence Cup basketball from Mar 25

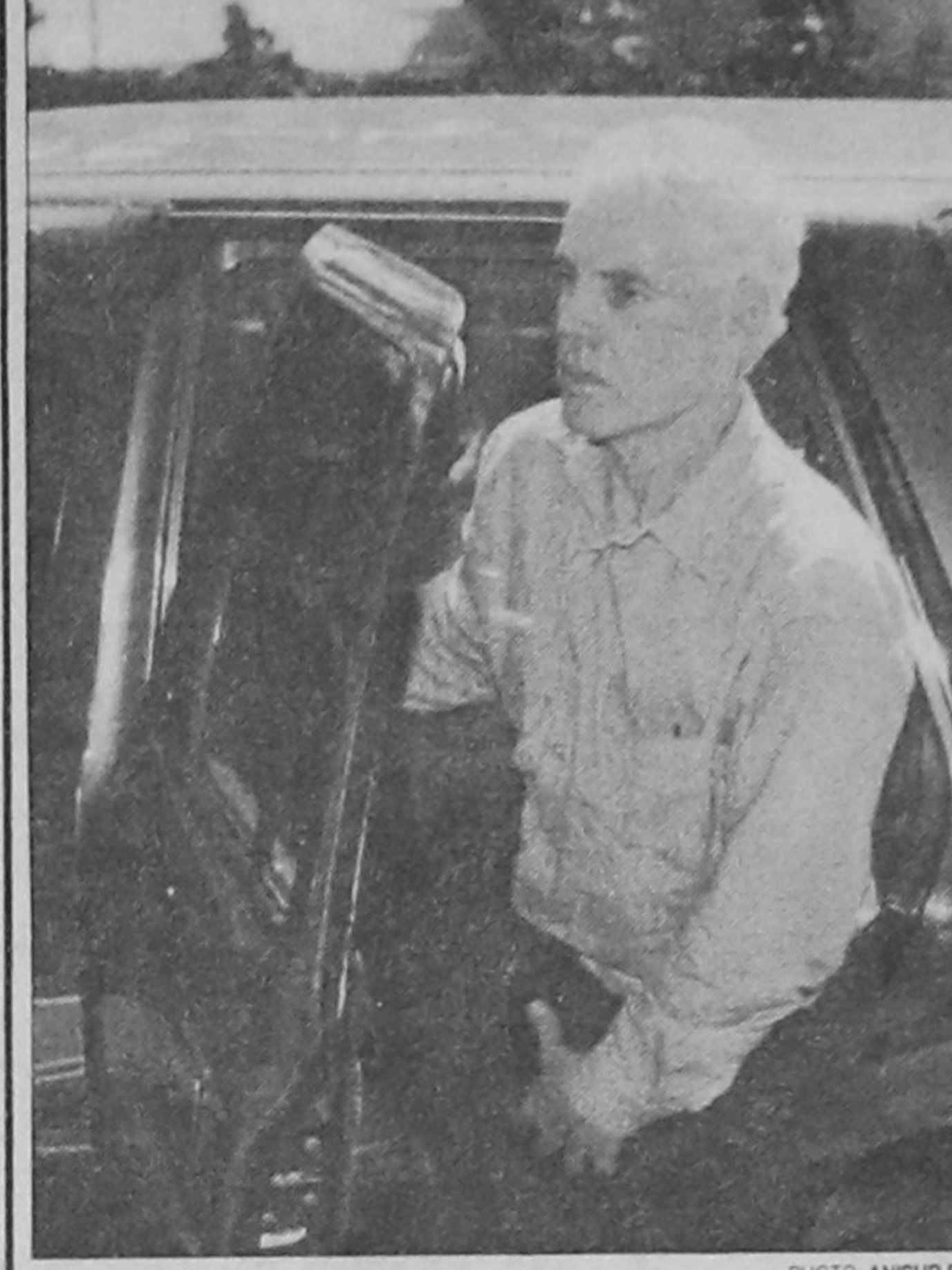
**SPORTS REPORTER**  
The Independence Cup basketball tournament will be held at the Dhanmondi basketball gymnasium from March 25 under the auspices of Bangladesh Amateur Basketball Federation (BAAF).  
Interested clubs, organisations, universities and colleges have been asked to make their entries at the BAAF office at the same gymnasium by March 20 at the cost of Taka 200.

## C'wealth to bowl cricket out

**REUTERS, Melbourne**  
Basketball will be played at the Commonwealth Games for the first time in Melbourne in 2006 but cricket is likely to be ruled out, state officials said on Tuesday.  
Victoria state Sports Minister Justin Madden said basketball would join hockey, netball and seven-a-side rugby as the four team sports at the four-yearly Commonwealth Games in Australia's second largest city.  
"We can look forward to fierce competition at the Games as traditional basketball powers, such as Canada and Australia, attempt to overcome the emerging basketball powers, especially from Africa," Madden told reporters.  
He said basketball had beaten bids for inclusion from several other sports, including beach volleyball, handball, softball and water polo.  
Cricket was played for the first time at the Commonwealth Games in Kuala Lumpur in 1998. The International Cricket Council, the game's governing body, has said it was happy with cricket's debut but wanted to scrap the 50-overs, one-day format.  
Commonwealth delegates have since said cricket would be dropped altogether after conflicts with a hectic cricket schedule. Hockey, netball and rugby have been retained.  
"It was always going to be difficult because the 2006 programme has a limit of four team sports which had already been allocated," said Basketball Australia chief executive Scott Derwin.

## Trevor in town

**SPORTS REPORTER**  
Trevor Martin Chappell, the newly appointed national cricket coach, arrived in the city on Tuesday. The former Australian Test captain was shielded from the press by the



**COACH'S CARRIER:** New Bangladesh cricket coach Trevor Chappell steps out of a Toyota jeep in front of the Dhaka Club on Tuesday. His predecessors West Indian Gordon Greenidge and South African Eddie Barlow previously used this very vehicle.

overtly cautious officials of the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) as soon as his Thai Airways flight landed at the Zia International Airport at around 12 noon.  
"We regret that Trevor cannot talk to the press until he signs the agreement on Thursday," said BCB President Saber Hossain.  
The Board intends to avail the expertise of the former Sri Lankan fielding coach until the 2003 World Cup in South Africa, but initially his contract will be limited to a one-year period.  
The contract with the youngest of the three Chappell brothers was finalised during the Board president's visit to Melbourne where he attended the ICC meeting last month.  
Unlike his illustrious brothers - Ian and Greg who captained their country, Trevor's career never took off. He played only three Tests and 12 one-day internationals in a short career, that was turned upside down when he became the first cricketer to 'bowl underarm' in a one-day match against New Zealand.  
The 48-year-old Australian after an exhausting flight from down under relaxed in the comfortable surroundings of the Dhaka Club guesthouse.  
However, he is expected to see the practice match of the national team at the BKSP in Savar Wednesday. Trevor's first task as coach will be to accompany the national team on their tour of Zimbabwe in April. During the month long maiden overseas trip, the Test babes will play two Test and three one-day internationals.

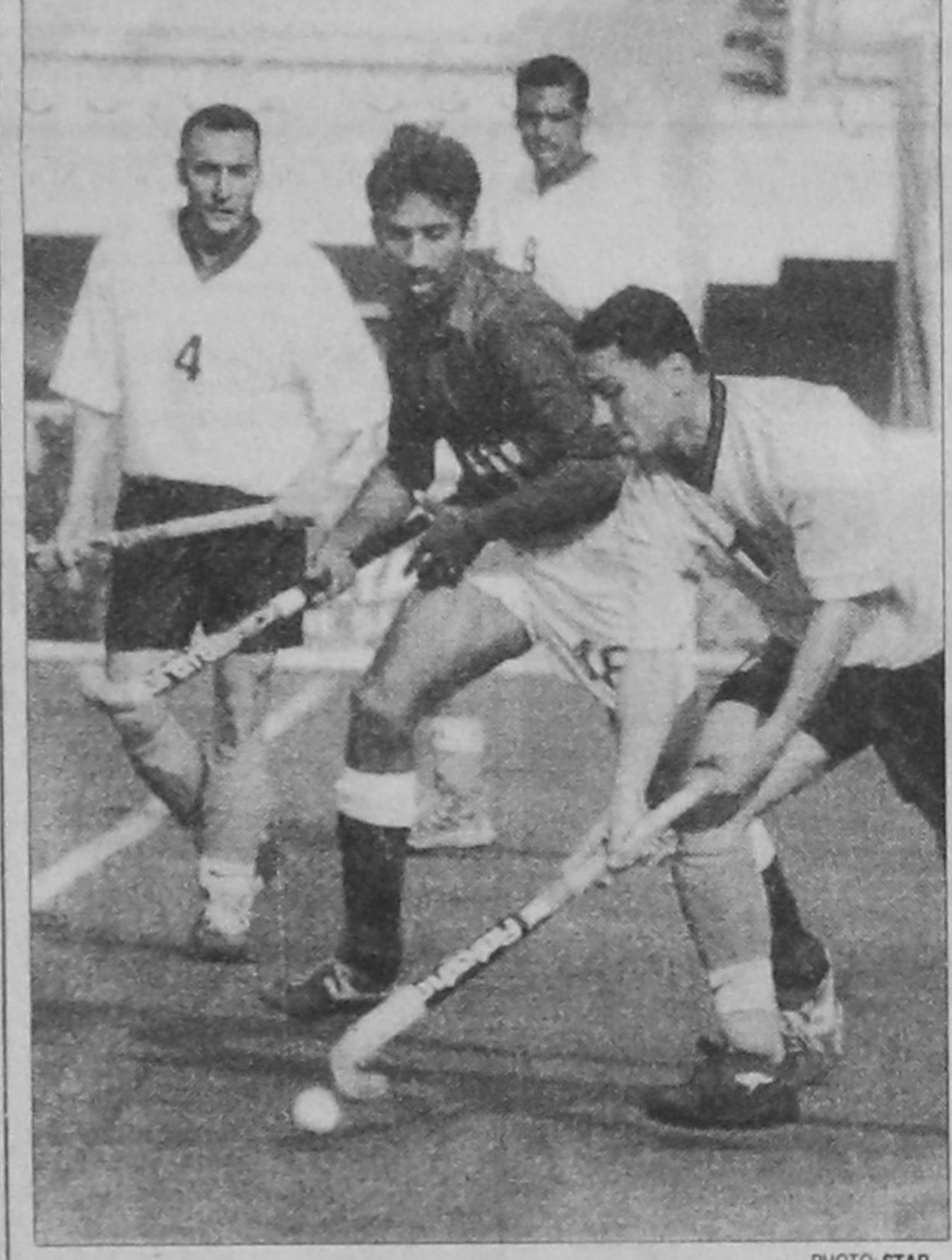
## India promptly through

### Handball

**SPORTS REPORTER**  
India became the first team to book a semifinal berth in the Prime Minister Gold Cup hockey tournament after they came from behind to beat Japan 3-1 at the Maulana Bhasani Stadium on Tuesday.  
In the other two matches of the day, title contenders Pakistan defeated Egypt 4-1 while Ireland registered a solitary goal over Malaysia in their respective Group B engagements.

**INDIA 3 JAPAN 1**  
Two penalty corner conversions from midfielder Dilip Tirkey propelled India to their second successive win in Group A.  
The match was locked 1-1 in the first half.  
Dilip, the tall stick-wielder scored his first goal in the 33rd minute to bring India back into the match after Japan forward Yamabori Takahito had given his team the lead with a brilliant angular hit from the left corner of the box in the 27th minute.  
Skipper Bajjett Singh Dhillon

put India ahead with a brilliant solo run three minutes into the second half. Bajjett won the ball in the midfield and moved into the box from the right before pushing the ball into the far corner of the post.  
Dilip then sealed Japan's fate from a penalty corner four minutes later.  
India will meet hosts Bangladesh in their last first round match today.  
Japan are now sharing the bottom spot in the group along with Bangladesh with each having one point. They will take on Scotland in their last match tomorrow.



**Pakistani midfielder Mudassar Ali tries to take control of the ball from an Egyptian player during their Prime Minister Gold Cup Hockey Tournament match at the Maulana Bhasani Stadium yesterday.**

**PAKISTAN 4 EGYPT 1**  
It took Pakistan 26 minutes to get the breakthrough against the stubborn North African newcomers.  
Forward Kashif Zawwad scored the goal from a counter-attack.  
But Egypt then leveled the score in the 44th minute after Indian umpire Virendra Bahadur Singh awarded them a penalty stroke following a foul by Pakistan goalkeeper Ahmed Alam.  
Adnan El Sayed converted the penalty.  
Egypt's joy was short-lived as the highly experienced Pakistanis turned around and scored three goals in 15 minutes.  
Kashif scored his second goal to put Pakistan ahead once again in the 49th minute.  
Mohammad Nadeem made it 3-1 with a reverse hit in the 54th minute while Hussain drove the last nail on Egypt's coffin capitalising on a goal mouth rebounder six minutes from time.  
Pakistan remained atop the Group B table with full six points from two matches.  
**IRELAND 1 MALAYSIA 0**  
In the remaining match of the day, Ireland registered their first win.  
Justin Sheriff scored the match winner following a combined attack in the 15th minute.  
Ireland joined China and Egypt at the crowded second spot in Group B with each having three points from two matches.

## Kiwis' cause for concern

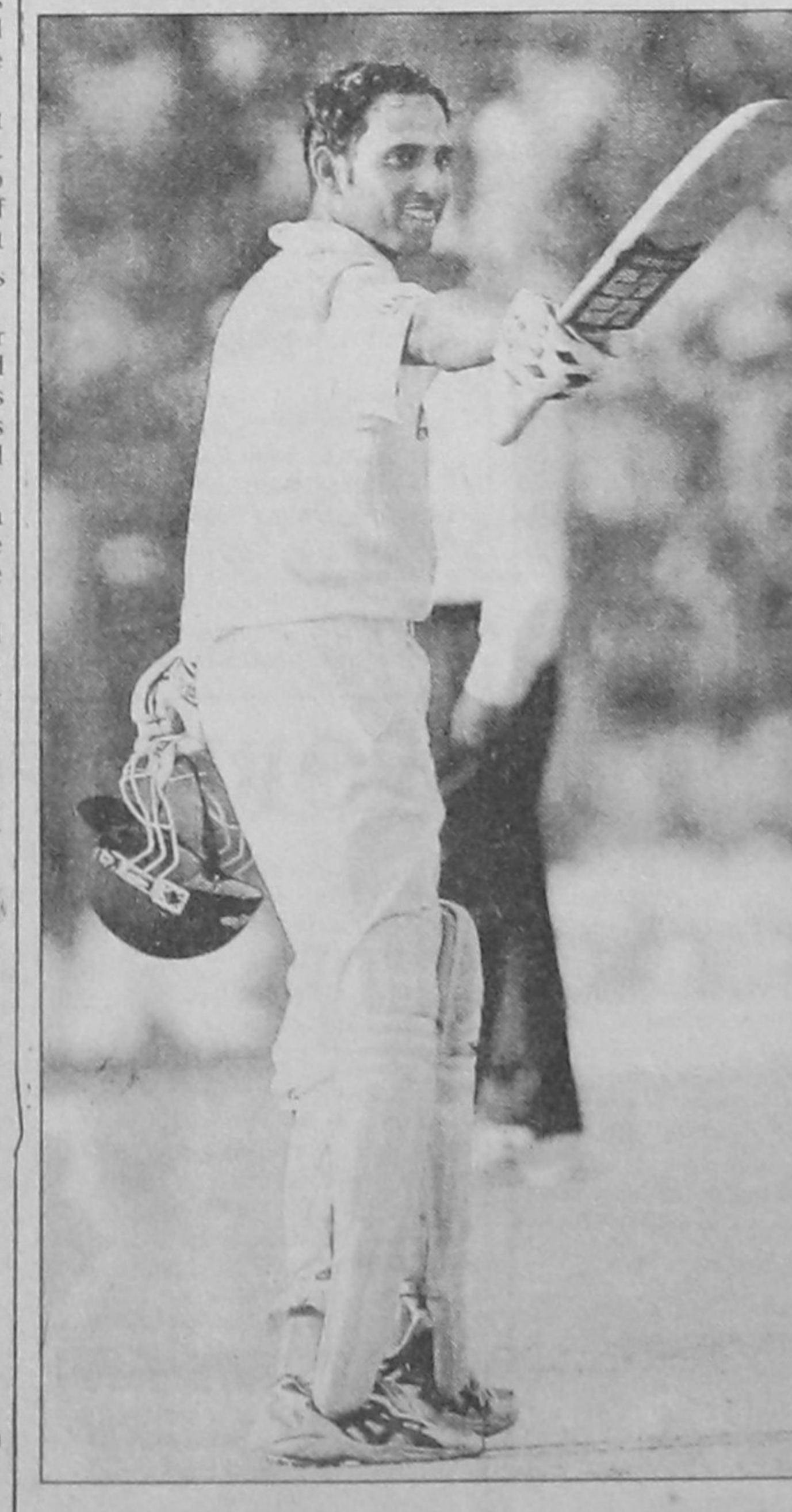
**AP, Christchurch**  
Days after being humiliated on one portable pitch, New Zealand could face embarrassment in the second Test following suggestions that a similar pitch could help the tourists' spinners.  
New Zealand skipper Stephen Fleming failed to read the pitch - used for the first time in Test cricket - and suffered a 299-run drubbing at the hands of a young Pakistan side, falling behind 1-0 in the three-match series.  
Fleming criticised Eden Park's state-of-the-art portable strip and said his side had lost valuable home advantage.  
"It is a risky business testing it out in a Test match," Fleming said. "A portable pitch is the right step when you have a crossover of winter and summer sports, but it shouldn't have been used in this match."  
The surface put in Monday for Thursday's second Test is an old strip with at least three matches played on it, including a first-class match between Zimbabwe and Canterbury in December last year.  
Although the surface sports a lush layer of grass, the teams face the danger of footmarks from the previous games resurfacing.  
New Zealand has strengthened the side for the second Test with the inclusion of two new seamers - Chris Drum and Jacob Oram - to make use of the pace of the surface.  
Team selector Sir Richard Hadlee said he was confident of the surface used at Lancaster Park.  
"Unlike here (Auckland) we know how the portable pitch in Christchurch will play," Hadlee said.  
New Zealand were ripped apart in the first Test by off-spinner Saqlain Mushtaq and fast bowler Mohammad Sami, who took eight wickets.

## VVIP VVS

### Cricket

**AEP, Calcutta**  
Venkatsai Laxman hit a sparkling unbeaten 109 to hold off Australia's inevitable victory in the second cricket Test against India at the Eden Gardens here on Tuesday.  
The wristy 26-year-old shared a fourth-wicket stand of 117 with skipper Saurav Ganguly (48) to lift India to 254-4 in their second innings by stumps on the third day.  
But the Indians still have a long way to go to stage off defeat in the Test after being forced to follow on 274 runs in arrears earlier in the day.  
The hosts trail by 20 runs with six wickets in hand and need a miraculous turnaround over the next two days to prevent Australia from taking a decisive 2-0 lead in the three-match series.  
Steve Waugh's men, looking to secure Australia's first series on Indian soil in 31 years, won their first Test at Bombay by 10 wickets with more than two days to spare.  
Laxman and Ganguly, however, ensured the Indians did not go down without a fight after making just 171 in the first innings.

Laxman, promoted to number three following his defiant 59 in the first innings, has so far hit 19 boundaries in his second Test century, both against Australia.  
He made 167 in the second innings of the Sydney Test last year which Australia won by an innings and 141 runs.  
Ganguly, leading India for the first time on his home ground, fell just before close when he edged a rising ball from Glenn McGrath to wicketkeeper Adam Gilchrist.  
The out-of-form Rahul Dravid, forced to abandon his customary number three position, was unbeaten at close on seven.  
"It was an honour to come in one down and I am glad I lived up to the expectations of the captain and coach," Laxman said later.  
"We needed someone to be aggressive and I was assigned that role."  
"It's worked well for me but I want to continue like this on Wednesday so that we can put them under pressure," he said.  
Laxman and Ganguly came together after India lost three wickets, including the crucial one of Sachin Tendulkar, with just 115 runs on the board.  
Tendulkar managed just 10 runs in each innings, this time



**Indian batsman VVS Laxman acknowledges the crowd's applause after reaching his century at Calcutta yesterday.**

edging a drive off fast bowler Jason Gillespie into Gilchrist's gloves.  
An angry spectator among the 45,000 at the Eden Gardens hurled a water pouch at Tendulkar as he walked back to the pavilion, missing the cricketer narrowly.  
Police, however, moved in quickly to restore order and evicted the man from the stadium.  
Earlier, India added 43 runs to their overnight score of 128-8 when they were dismissed an hour after the start.  
Laxman hit 33 of those runs before he was last man out after making his sixth half-century in 21 Tests.  
The stylish Hyderabad batsman hit half of his 12 boundaries past the spread-out field, showing his senior colleagues in the dressing room how to play the bowlers.  
Venkatesh Prasad helped Laxman add 42 for the last wicket before Laxman was caught in the slips off Shane Warne.  
When India batted a second time, openers Shiv Das and Sadagopan Ramesh put on 52 when the Australians broke through.  
Left-hander Ramesh did not add to his lunch score of 30 when he edged Warne to the slip region where Mark Waugh dived to his right to pick up a low catch.  
Das and Laxman then added 45 for the second wicket, before the tourists earned a lucky break.  
Das, who looked composed making 39, played back to Gillespie and disturbed the bails with his right foot to be given out hit wicket.  
**SCOREBOARD**  
Scoreboard at stumps on the third day of the second Test between India and Australia at the Eden Gardens on Tuesday:  
**AUSTRALIA:** First innings 445 (S Waugh 110, M Hayden 97, J Langer 58, J Gillespie 46; Harbhajan Singh 7-123)  
**INDIA:** First innings (overnight 128-8)  
Das c Gilchrist b McGrath 20  
Ramesh c Ponting b Gillespie 0  
Dravid b Warne 25  
Tendulkar lbw b McGrath 10  
Ganguly c S Waugh b Kasprowitz 23  
Laxman c Hayden b Warne 59  
Mongia c Gilchrist b Kasprowitz 2  
Harbhajan c Ponting b Gillespie 4  
Zaheer b McGrath 3  
Raju lbw b McGrath 4  
Prasad not out 7  
Extras: (lb-3, nb-12) 14  
Total: (All out in 58.1 overs) 171  
Fall of wickets: 1-0, 2-34, 3-48, 4-88, 5-88, 6-92, 7-97, 8-113, 9-129  
**Bowler O M R W**  
McGrath 18 7 43 1  
Gillespie 17 4 62 2  
Warne 20 2 87 1  
M Waugh 8 1 25 0  
Kasprowitz 12 5 34 0  
**INDIA:** Second innings  
Das hit wkt b Gillespie 39  
Ramesh c M Waugh b Warne 30  
Laxman not out 109  
Tendulkar c Gilchrist b Gillespie 10  
Ganguly c Gilchrist b McGrath 48  
Dravid not out 7  
Extras: (lb-3, nb-6, w-2) 11  
Total: (For 4 wickets in 75 overs) 254  
Fall of wickets: 1-52, 2-97, 3-115, 4-232  
**Bowler O M R W**  
McGrath 18 7 43 1  
Gillespie 17 4 62 2  
Warne 20 2 87 1  
M Waugh 8 1 25 0  
Kasprowitz 12 5 34 0

## Miandad alerts seniors

### Cricket

**AP, Christchurch**  
Pakistan cricket coach Javed Miandad, a day after his side's big first-Test win over New Zealand, has urged senior players not to take their positions for granted.  
Miandad's comments Tuesday came after a new-look Pakistan hammered New Zealand by 299 runs and after a week of rumours of dissension between the coach and some of the senior players.  
Pakistan, fielding four new faces after injuries forced opener Saad Anwar, vice-captain Inzamamul Haq and all-rounder Wasim Akram out of the series opener, put together a strong team effort to humbled the home side.  
Fast bowler Mohammad Sami led the way with a match haul of eight wickets and overshadowed the efforts of batsman Younis Khan (91 and 149 not out) that set up the match for the tourists.  
"Everyone should fight for their place in the side," former star batsman Miandad said. "We have 150 million people in Pakistan and cricket is for every one of them and not for a few."  
"But if you perform no one can take your place, it's simple."  
The encouraging performances by the rookies have caught the

selectors and Cricket Board back home by surprise - Pakistan's biggest problem has been their inconsistency in selection and administrative decisions.  
Former skipper Wasim took a passing shot at the country's cricket administrators before leaving, saying that Pakistan would suffer the same fate as the West Indies because it lacked the depth in talent.  
Barely 24 hours after Wasim left New Zealand with a groin injury, the young and inexperienced side beat New Zealand.  
"We've got youngsters who can play international cricket," said Miandad. "This is the way to go. They showed their strength and the ability. It was a great team effort."  
But Miandad, who played 124 Tests and scored 8,832 runs, said it was now up to the selectors to decide how to blend the youngsters with the seniors.  
He also felt that both Zimbabwe (2-1) and Sri Lanka (4-1) had put enormous pressure on Pakistan after beating New Zealand in the one-day series.  
"Pakistan has a standing in world cricket," he said. "We have some world-class players and it was very disappointing to lose the one-series which we should have won 5-0 or at least 4-1."  
"Considering the loss in the one-dayers it was a very good boost winning the first Test."  
Miandad warned of losing focus in the remainder of the series and said the ultimate prize for the young side was nothing but a series victory.  
"My message is that the series is not over yet," he said. "We've just won one Test and we've got two more to go."  
"I believe in performance and commitment. It depends on how you play, fight and approach. That's the most important thing."  
The second Test starts Thursday in Christchurch.



**JAVED MIANDAD**

**DAY'S EVENT**  
Prime Minister Gold Cup  
Venue: Maulana Bhasani Stadium  
China vs Egypt (2 pm)  
Bangladesh vs India (4 pm)