



Did U Know?

Mark Boucher of South Africa is the youngest wicketkeeper to attain 100 dismissals in Test cricket. He was 23 years and 10 days when he completed his 100th dismissal against England at Port Elizabeth in 1999-2000 series.



What to Watch

- BTV**
World Cup 2002 Draw
Live at 6:00 pm
- ESPN**
Sportscentre Hindi
Sport News
6:30 am
ATP Tennis Show
9:00 am
English Premier Football League
Man United vs Arsenal
11:00 am
UEFA Champions League
Bayer Leverkusen vs Juventus
3:30 pm
English Premier Football League
Chelsea vs Man United
Live at 5:50 pm
&
Arsenal vs Ipswich Town
Live at 8:50 pm
- STAR Sports**
Australia vs New Zealand
Third Test, Day One
Highlights at 7:30 am
Australia vs New Zealand
Third Test, Day Two
Live at 8:27 am
Australia vs New Zealand
Third Test, Day Two
Highlights at 10:30 pm
Primera Liga
Barcelona vs Alaves
Live at 2:30 am (Sunday)



Talk Turkey



Pele
(Football legend)
"At the moment Brazil have a coach who plays defensively and that is not the Brazilian way. I hope between now and the World Cup he puts together a team that plays like Brazil."
On Brazil national coach Felipe Scolari.

Star WHIZZ KID COMPETITION 162

Tick the Correct Answers Post to
The Daily Star
Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm
Dec 14, 2001 and draw shortly afterwards

- Who won the man-of-the-series award in the Bangladesh and Zimbabwe one-day international?
Al-Shahriar (H) Bashir (D) Ebrahim
- Who became Inter-Continental Cup champion?
Boca Juniors (R) Real Madrid (B) Bayern Munich
- How many runs did Habibul Bashar score in the first innings of the second Test against Zimbabwe?
117 109
- Which number Test venue is the M.A. Aziz Stadium?
73rd 66th
82nd
- Who won the Tennis Masters Cup in Sydney?
Henman (R) Rafter (H) Hewitt

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

Mother of all draws today



REUTERS, Pusan

Asia's first World Cup will take shape on Saturday when the draw for next year's tournament in South Korea and Japan separates the 32 finalists into their eight first round groups. The finals, the first to be co-hosted by two nations, start on May 31 in the South Korean capital Seoul and conclude with the 64th and final match in Yokohama, Japan on June 30.

FIFA general secretary Michel Zen-Ruffinen, who will conduct the draw in front of an expected global TV audience of more than one billion people, has declared Saturday's proceedings as "open and pure" -- although, as ever, it is not quite that simple.

What is already determined is that eight seeded nations will be placed in each of the eight groups and that China will play their first round matches in South Korea.

As a result of FIFA's decision to send China to South Korea, Saudi Arabia, who also qualified through the Asian preliminaries, will have to play their three first round games in Japan. World champions France, who start their campaign in the opening match, will play all their opening round games in South Korea, while both South Korea and Japan will be based in their respective home countries.

Brazil, Argentina, Italy, Germany and Spain complete the list of seeds. For the first time, the remaining 24 qualifiers have all been grouped along geographical lines rather than seeded in terms of presumed ability.

After the seeded nations are allocated a group -- France have already been assigned to Group A, South Korea to Group D and Japan to

Group H -- eight of the remaining 11 European nations will be allocated a group in a straight draw from Group A across to Group H.

The three remaining European teams will then be drawn into groups that do not already contain two European teams.

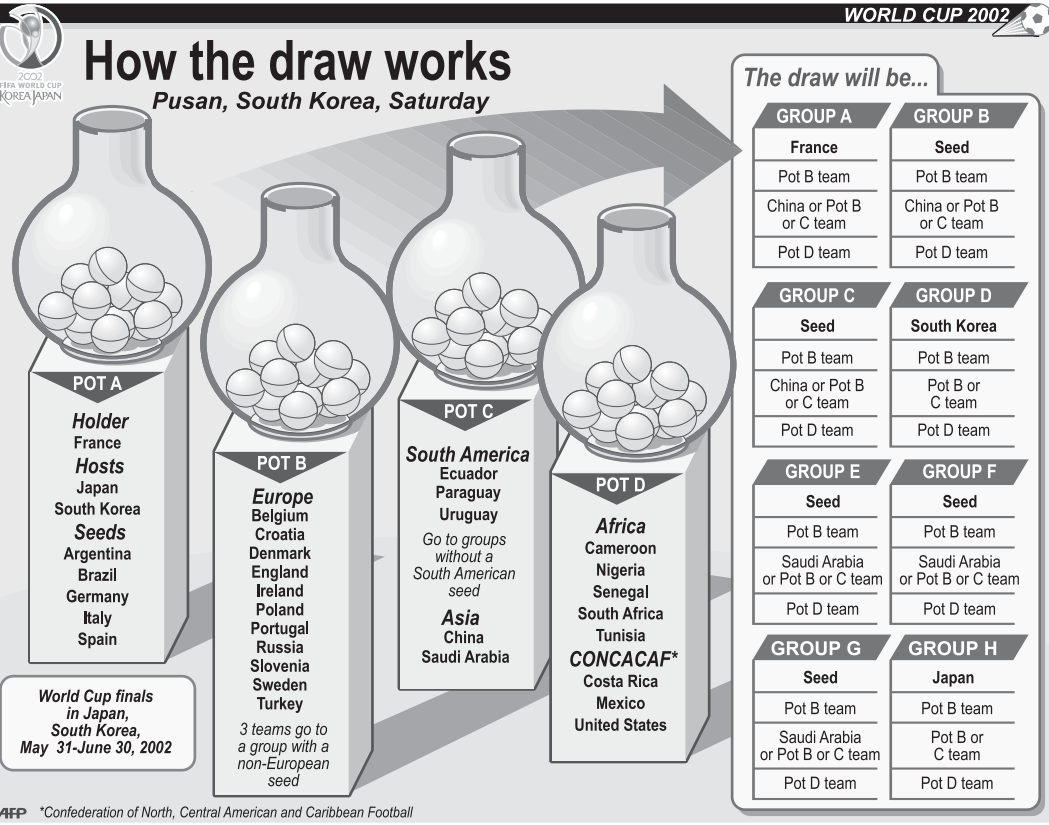
After a brief interval during which the official World Cup song "Boom" will be sung by the singer Anastacia, the draw will continue with the remaining teams from South America, Africa and Central and North America.

Zen-Ruffinen said FIFA wanted to ensure the draw was as balanced as possible between the two co-hosts.

"It would never have been practical, for example, to have lots of European teams playing in one country and not in the other, or to have all the South American teams in one country either," he said.

"The way the draw is designed we can go as far as is possible in ensuring it is balanced -- at the same time

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Sourav angry at selectors?

AFP, New Delhi

India's cricket captain Sourav Ganguly is angry the selectors did not consult him before picking the team for the first Test against England, a newspaper reported on Friday.

"They (selectors) did not bother to ask me for my suggestions, nobody called me," the Mid-Day newspaper quoted Ganguly as saying.

Ganguly, who was away on the South African tour when the selectors named the 14-man squad on Wednesday, said he had expected a phone call from chairman Chandu Borde.

"Couldn't they call me for two minutes? Is it a new rule that the captain will not be asked for his opinion? I'll try to confirm this from the president Jagmohan Dalmiya," he told the paper.

"Now I understand why Sachin resigned," Ganguly said, referring to master batsman Sachin Tendulkar's

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The New Zealand-bound Bangladesh cricketers and officials pose for an official photograph with State Minister for Youth and Sports Fazlur Rahman (sitting 5th from R) and new Bangladesh Cricket Board president Ali Asghar (sitting 5th from L) at the Bangabandhu National Stadium on Friday.

Mashud full of hope

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh captain Khaled Mashud is optimistic ahead of his first overseas mission in New Zealand.

Mashud, who was made Bangladesh skipper two weeks before the one-day series against Zimbabwe, believes that his teammates can manage to draw at least one of the two Tests against the Black Caps.

The man from Rajshahi is speaking at a media briefing at the Bangabandhu National Stadium on Friday afternoon, prior to the team's departure.

Coach Trevor Chappell, government-appointed manager Afzalur Rahman Sinha and his assistant Tanjeb Ahsan Saad were also present.

Sinha and Saad, the two Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB)

directors who were attached with the team only a couple of days back in place of Ahmed Sajjadul Alam and Mahmud Jamal, however, did not accompany the team as their visa formalities were not completed.

While giving his views on the tour, Mashud said, "Although we did not get much time to prepare for the tour, still we will be getting five days to shape ourselves up for the conditions there before the opening match of the tour."

Besides, he wanted his squad to play full five days against the home side in both Tests.

The Bangladesh skipper also revealed that there would be no compromise with Habibul Bashar's batting position.

Currently, the in-form middle-order batsman comes in at number three. Mashud also hoped Al-Shahriar, who scored a century (128 not out) against a District Eleven when Bangladesh toured the Kiwiland in 1997, would also get runs on this tour too.

Asked whether the absence of some senior players would affect the team's form in New Zealand, he said that there is no value of experience unless that person performed.

"We have a young side this time. But I think it's a balanced side and we are going to play positive cricket," said Mashud.

Manager Afzalur Rahman Sinha had a rough time with the reporters.

"I have accepted the manager's post in the interest of the Board," replied Sinha when asked if his decision to accept the managerial post was ethical especially after he was the one who had earlier proposed Sajjadul's name in BCB's November 20 meeting.

He however said that he would try his best so that no such episode repeats itself in future.

"I have been associated with this game for many years. And in that time nobody questioned my ability," said a dejected Sinha.

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Biman kings of chess

SPORTS REPORTER

Last year's runners-up Bangladesh Biman regained the First Division Chess League title when they defeated Anirban Chess School 3-1 in the penultimate round at the NSC chess room on Friday.

The national airline team, champions in 1999, confirmed their ninth league triumph with a match to play.

They raised their tally to 49 points, five and a half points more than holders and second-placed Titas Club.

On Friday, Grand Master Ziaur Rahman and Fide Master Enamul Hossain Rajib won their respective boards for Biman against Anirban's Almasur Rahman and Mahtabuddin Ahmed while International Master Abdullah Al-Rakib and Fide Master Rezaul Haque drew with Nazir Salehin and Minhazuddin Ahmed.

In today's final round Biman will meet Nakhla para Jubo Kalyan Sangha.

In other matches of the day, Titas Club dumped Dhaka Daba Ghar 4-0, Kamalapur Samaj Kalyan and Kriya Sangha outclassed Narayanganj District Chess Players Association by 3.5-0.5 points, Sonali Bank Sports and Recreation Club edged past Bangshal Progati Samaj Kalyan Sangha by 2.5-1.5 points while Farashganj Sporting Club defeated Anu Memorial Club by 3-1 points.

The only draw of the day was between Nakhla para Jubo Kalyan Sangha and Leonine Chess Club.

The final round of the 15-round league begins at the same venue today at 2:30 pm.

Pabna soccer

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Sarkar & Sons Chatmohor defeated Muktomon 6-1 in the Radhuni Second Division Football League at the local stadium yesterday.

Newton scored hatrick. Saiful, Rajib and Anwar netted one goal each for the winners while Islam pulled back one for the losers.

WHIZZ KID-160 winner



Sajid Iqbal (BAF Shaheen School)

WHIZZ KID-161 correct answers

- Who won the man-of-the-match award in the Sharjah Champions trophy final?
Ans: Waqar
- Who clinched the Munich WTA Tour singles title?
Ans: Serena
- South Africa defeated India in the first test at Bloemfontein by
Ans: 9-wkt
- How many Test centuries has Sachin Tendulkar scored?
Ans: 26
- Bangladesh will play 2003 WC crickets opening match with whom?
Ans: Canada

Lara, Vaas day's heroes

Cricket

AFP, Colombo

Brian Lara's double-century was upstaged by a seven-wicket haul from Chaminda Vaas as the West Indies let Sri Lanka off the hook in the third and final cricket Test here on Friday.

The left-handed batting genius made 221, but the West Indies lost six wickets for 43 runs to be bowled out for 390 after starting the second day at a commanding 327-3.

Left-arm Vaas took five of the last seven wickets to finish with a career-best 7-120, surpassing his six-wicket haul against England earlier this year.

Sri Lanka were 193-3 at stumps

in reply, taking advantage of loose fielding and bowling by the West Indians to recover from the loss of opener Marvan Atapattu in the second over.

Skipper Sanath Jayasuriya hit 85, adding 99 for the second wicket with Kumar Sangakkara (55) and 75 for the third with Mahela Jayawardena.

When play ended early due to bad light, Jayawardena was batting on 32, while Russel Arnold was on 10.

Sri Lanka, who have already wrapped up the series by winning the first two Tests, are 198 away from gaining the first innings lead with seven wickets in hand.

Lara played a lone hand for the tourists, defying the fall of regular wickets at the other end in a dramatic morning session.

It was the fourth time the 83-Test veteran crossed the 200-run mark, batting with the same determination that gave him a world record score of 375 seven years ago.

Lara, unbeaten on 178 after the first day, held his end up for seven hours to strike 23 boundaries and two sixes.

He was dismissed just before lunch when a Vaas in-swing took the inside edge of the bat and shattered the stumps.

Lara has so far scored 558 runs in the series, the only highlight for the West Indians in an otherwise disappointing tour.

Captain Carl Hooper added just four to his overnight score of 52 when he was trapped leg-before by Vaas in the day's fifth over.

Hooper's dismissal ended a 135-run stand for the fourth wicket with Lara.

Vaas then claimed both Marlon Samuels and Mervyn Dillon leg-before, and new-ball partner Nuwan Zoysa clean-bowled Ridley Jacobs to reduce the West Indies to 376-7.

Off-spinner Muthia Muralitharan, the nemesis for the West Indies in the previous two Tests, earned his first wicket of the match when Dinanath Ramnarine was caught in the slips two balls before lunch.

The Sri Lankans did not learn from the West Indian mistakes as both Jayasuriya and Sangakkara got out to loose shots after looking set to dominate the rival attack.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at stumps on the second day of the third and final Test between Sri Lanka and the West Indies at the Sinhalese Sports Club ground in Colombo on Friday:

WEST INDIES: First innings (overnight 327-3)

Ganga lbw b Vaas	6
Gayle c Sangakkara b Vaas	0
Sarwan run out	69
Lara b Vaas	221
Hooper lbw b Vaas	56
Samuels lbw b Vaas	4
Jacobs b Zoysa	2
Dillon lbw b Vaas	2
Ramnarine c J'dena b M'tharan	0
Collins c Samarweera b Vaas	4
Black not out	0
Extras: (b-5, lb-7, nb-14)	26
Total: (All out in 113.3 overs)	390

Fall of wickets: 1-2, 2-17, 3-211, 4-346, 5-359, 6-368, 7-376, 8-385, 9-389.

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Suddenly Kiwis collapse

Vincent makes fairytale debut

Cricket

AFP, Perth

New Zealand opening batsman Lou Vincent grabbed a place in cricket's hall of fame with a masterly century in his debut Test here Friday.

Vincent, 23, from Auckland, hammered a superb 104 in 273 minutes to help the Black Caps to a useful stumps score of 293 for seven on the opening day of the third and deciding Test against Australia at the WACA Ground.

This after Kiwi skipper Stephen Fleming had won the toss and decided to bat.

Fleming also played a major role in his side's healthy score, hitting a 316-minute 105 -- his third century in 107 Test innings which have also yielded 31 half-centuries.

It was the first time in the series, standing at 0-0 after rain-affected draws in Brisbane and Hobart, that New Zealand have comprehensively outplayed Australia for long stretches.

However, the dismissal late in the day of Fleming, Craig McMillan (four), Daniel Vettori (two) and Chris Cairns (eight) dented Kiwi hopes of a total above 400.

Vincent and Fleming forged a marvellous third-wicket stand of 199, only 25 short of the New Zealand record against Australia for that wicket.

Vincent, a middle-order specialist opening an innings in first-class ranks for the first-time, never flinched during four-and-a-half hours at the crease as he tackled Australia's much-vaunted pace attack head on -- and won gloriously.

He reached the pinnacle of his ascendancy when he boldly hooked express man Brett Lee over the backward square leg boundary for six.

As well, he stroked 15 majestic fours from magnificently executed drives, cuts and pulls.

While Vincent provided the

youngful flair, Fleming (15 fours) was the side's anchor.

He remained unflustered even when marooned in the nervous nineties for 43 minutes.

Vincent, a pugnacious right-hander, became just the third New Zealand opener to complete a century on debut.

Jack Mills, with 117, achieved the feat against England in Wellington in 1929-30, and Rodney Redmond (107) captured his corner in the game's history in a match against Pakistan in Auckland in 1972-73.

Vincent and Fleming weighed in with what could prove to be a match-winning stand of 199 for the third wicket after early shocks for the visitors, who were 19 for two wickets in the seventh over.

The only major luck they had was that champion Australian paceman Glenn McGrath was forced to leave the field with a back worry after bowling five overs early in the day and did not re-join the attack until 80 minutes before stumps.

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