

For the United Arab Emirates, winning the World Cup was not realistic. In 1990 they were knocked out after three straight defeats in the group stage. However, they managed to score two goals and no wonder the goal scorers celebrated as if they had won the World Cup. The players received a Rolls Royce for every goal they



ESPN

Primera Liga Highlights at 7:30 am English Premiership Man United v Middlesbrough Repeat at 10:30 am

Football Magazine 12:30 pm India v New Zealand First ODI

Highlights at 5:00 pm Sachin Tendulkar, India v .. Cricket Talk Show 7:00 pm

Sportscenter Hindi Sports News Live at 8:30 pm

STAR Sports Australia v England 4th Ashes Test, Day Two

Live from 5:57 am Sachin Speaks On World Cup Stars Repeat at 8:00 am Pakistan v South Africa First Test. Day One Highlights at 1:00 pm Pakistan v South Africa First Test. Day Two Live from 1:55 pm **Sportsline Tonight** Sports News

Super Selector Australia v England 4th Test, Day Two Highlights at 11:00 pm

Live at 9:00 pm

Cricket Programming





Jagmohan Dalmiya

attempt to induce the players to break existing contracts."



The Paily Star Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm Dec 27, 2002 and draw

shortly afterwards

. Bangladesh lost the third ODI against West Indies by: 86 runs 5 wkts 120 runs

2. Who won the 2002 Davis Cup? Russia France Australia

3. Who was man-of-the-match in the first Test between Bangladesh and West Indies?

Lawson Gayle Sarwan 4. Who lifted the women's World Cup hockey title?

Argentina | Germany

5. Who was voted World Soccer

Class..... Roll No..... School Address

Ctg claim top spot

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

Chittagong leapfrogged holders Dhaka to claim the top spot in the Ispahani Mirzapore 4th National League with a 46-run victory against Sylhet at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

The winners of the inaugural edition registered their second win from three games when Sylhet, set to score 273, were bowled out for

Chittagong now leading the fourday competition with ten points, two points more than the second-placed Dhaka and Rajshahi.

Dhaka failed to collect a single point in the drawn match against Khulna after two successive victories. Young left-arm spinner Manzarul Islam stood in Dhaka's way with a fantastic seven-wicket

Rajshahi staged a remarkable turnaround on the final day at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium, where they successfully chased a 339 target against Barisal.

Chittagong had to fight hard to hand Sylhet their third successive

Jacob Oram put in a superb all-

round performance to guide New

Zealand to a tense three-wicket

victory over an injury-hit India in the

opening one-dayer at the Eden Park

The 24-vear-old all-rounder

helped his team gain a 1-0 lead in the

seven-match series as he sliced

through the Indian batting to grab a

career-best 5-26 off 10 incisive

the 33rd over, their lowest-ever total

against New Zealand in 62 one-

davers. Their previous low was 112

New Zealand were then strug-

gling at 52-6 before Oram scored a

crucial unbeaten 27 under pressure

to steer his team home in a low-

scoring day-night match on a bouncy

(ankle injury), off-spinner Harbhajan

Singh (hand) and all-rounder Sanjay

Bangar (knee), but gave a scare or

two to the hosts with an excellent

Srinath raised the tourists' hopes of

defending a small total with a four-

wicket haul, but Oram kept his nerve

under pressure to end a commend-

38th over when he firmly off-drove

seamer Saurav Ganguly for the

left-arm fast bowler Ashish Nehra

who finished with 2-16 off 10 disci-

plined overs, but strike bowler

injured, India looked a bowler short

after Srinath and Nehra had com-

pleted their quotas of 10 overs which

eventually proved vital in a close

Oram put on 34 for seventh

Oram, at 1.98 metres the tallest

wicket with Kyle Mills (21) and then

23 for the unfinished eighth wicket

bowler in the side, looked virtually

unplayable to return the second-best

Rival skippers Stephen Fleming of

New Zealand and Saurav Ganguly

of India on Thursday blamed the

tail-ender Daniel Vettori.

With Harbhajan and Bangar

Zaheer Khan (1-43) had an off-day.

Oram finished the match in the

Srinath was well-supported by

Veteran fast bowler Javagal

India went into the game without

at Melbourne in 1980-81.

ar batsman Sachin

portable pitch.

bowling show.

able Indian fightback.

winning boundary.

India were bundled out for 108 in

Cricket

AFP, Auckland

here on Thursday.

Sylhet threw caution to the wind with first-innings centurion Rajin Saleh and his brother Nasirul Alam playing

Rajin followed up his unbeaten 109 with a gritty 36 and Nasirul hammered a composed 56. Besides. number nine batsman Rana frustrated the port city outfit with an enterprising 73-ball 53. He struck five boundaries and a six.

Off-spinner Sabbir Khan captured four wickets for 90 runs. Chittagong's young opener

Nizamuddin was adjudged man-ofthe-match for his brilliant 140 in his side's first-innings total of 372. Rajshahi robbed Barisal of what

could have been their first point after

two consecutive defeats when they plundered 339 runs in 83.3 overs. It was an outstanding effort by Raishahi on the final day after their disappointing first innings where they scored 198 in reply to Barisal's

Opener Zharul Islam and onedown Rafigul laid the foundation producing 149 runs for the second wicket. Zharul struck a dozen boundaries in his 86 off 149 balls. Discarded national opener Rafiqul on the other hand scored 87 off 134 balls that contained seven fours.

But it was an absorbing 94-run Resuming the day on 17-4, stand for the seventh wicket

figures by a New Zealander against

India after paceman Richard

Collinge (5-23 at Christchurch in

with a pair of two-wicket overs as

India slipped from 63-2 to 74-8

before Rahul Dravid (20) and Zaheer

help their team cross the 100-mark.

in 26 one-dayers revived unhappy

memories for India, who crashed to

pace on seamer-friendly tracks

(14) added 34 for the ninth wicket to

Oram's maiden five-wicket haul

He triggered a dramatic collapse

Oram India's incubus

between wicketkeeper Shamsul and Mahabub Alam that fashioned an intriguing finish.

Mahabub hammered a breezy 52 and Shamsul an unbeaten 52 off

It was a stunning reversal of fortune for Barisal after dominating the first three days. The only solace for them was Ali Arman, who won the man-of-the-match award for his unbeaten century. Arman scored 109 in his side's second innings total

At the BKSP in Savar, Manjarul denied Dhaka a first-innings lead claiming seven wickets for 82 runs.

Resuming the day on 16-4, Dhaka made a desperate attempt to overtake Khulna's first-innings total of 315-5 dec. But they bowled out for 298 in 99.4 overs in the face of some intelligent bowling from Manjarul.

The southpaw, who followed up his enterprising 55 with three wickets on Wednesday, carried on the good work on the final day.

Khulna scored 86-3 in their second innings before both captains were agreed to a draw. But Khulna earned two points by virtue of taking the first innings lead. They are now closely following Dhaka and Rajshahi with six points from three SEE PAGE 15 COL 2

losing a recent two-Test series 2-0.

The nightmare continued for

The tidy pace attack was backed

India, as Daryl Tuffey (2-23), Mills (1-

20) and Shane Bond (1-32) also

by smart fielding in the slips where

skipper Stephen Fleming took two

Vettori then ended the Indian

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

innings with a superb head-high

catches and Mathew Sinclair and

Nathan Astle one apiece

Asian Youth F'ball Festival

Bangladesh maul **Maldives**

SPORTS REPORTER

A hattrick from Zahid enabled Bangladesh to inflict a 6-0 drubbing on Maldives in an Asian Youth (under-14) Football Festival 2002 match at the Dasharath Stadium in Katmandu, Nepal yesterday.

The winners led the first half 1-0. This was Bangladesh's second win

in four outings Zahid struck in the 20th, 57th and 68th minutes to become the second Bangladeshi to score a hattrick in the tournament. Striker Mithun was the first following his double hattrick in Bangladesh's 8-0 thrashing of Sri Lanka in their second match on December 22.

Mithun also scored one goal yesterday in the 51st minute to take his personal tally to ten goals.

Sujon netted the other two goals in the 48th and 72nd minutes.

Bangladesh suffered a 1-2 defeat against India in their opening match of the six-nation tournament and held hosts Nepal to a 2-2 draw ast Tuesday.

They will face Bhutan in their last robin league match tomorrow.

Jigme Dorji tournament

National booters against locals

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh will take on Thimpu Eleven in their last Group B match of the Jigme Dorji Wangchuk football tournament in Phuentsholing, Bhutan, today.

Bangladesh, who are taking part in the tournament as part of their preparation for the forthcoming South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) Championship, have already confirmed a berth in the semifinals of the competition after winning their first two matches against Indian side George Telegraph (2-0) and Sikkim

S Africa 250/5

AFP, Durban

Jacques Kallis made his 11th Test century as South Africa fought back after a poor start on the first day of the first Test against Pakistan at Kingsmead on Thursday.

Kallis scored 104 not out as South Africa, who were sent in to bat in heavily overcast conditions reached 250 for five when bad light stopped play 14.3 overs early.

Brief respite in contract stand-off

The International Cricket Council (ICC) has welcomed India's decision to name a World Cup squad by the December 31st deadline despite the two bodies being locked on a collision course over contracts for

ICC President, Malcolm Gray, said that the governing body was seeking nothing more than what the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) had committed to when it signed its Participating Nations Agreement (PNA) for the event in March this year.

"The BCCI committed to a series of obligations in its PNA and the most immediate one is to name its squad by 31 December. It is pleasing that it will meet this obligation," said Gray. SEE PAGE 15 COL 5

CityCell Digital **National Youth** Cricket

Munshiganj, Bandarban, Rajshahi Jessore, Khulna and Sylhet moved into the next round of the CityCell Digital 22nd National Youth (under-19) Cricket Championship zonal qualifying round after winning their respective matches at different venues across the country yesterday. Munshiganj defeated Gopalganj

by two wickets at the Jagannath Hall Set a winning target of 176 in 45

overs, Munshiganj reached home in 42.1 overs with Rossi scoring highest 42. Rana chipped in with 30. Earlier, electing to bat first after

winning the toss, Gopalganj were all out for 174 in 40 overs with Faruque scorina 55. Munshiganj will now face

Mymensingh in the next round today at the same venue. In Comilla, Bandarban handed

Brahmanbaria a 42-run defeat. In a low scoring affair, Bandarban were all out for 129 in 43.1 overs after deciding to bat.

after the World Cup. They then bundled out Brahmanbaria for 87 in 35.4 overs.

And he was confident that both sides could be convinced to play the triangular series in April or May.

Battered on Boxing Day

Langer, Hayden hammer hundred

Cricket

AFP, Melbourne

Matthew Hayden and Justin Langer feasted on centuries and endangered Steve Waugh batted with something to prove as Australia throttled England's bowlers yet again in the fourth Ashes cricket Test here on Thursday.

Australia, already with the Ashes

tucked away after winning the first three Tests in just 11 days' play, ruthlessly took apart the threadbare England bowling attack in what is shaping up as an inexorable advance on a 5-0 Ashes series sweep, the second since 1920-21.

In-form Havden clouted three sixes on his way to his third century of the series, while Langer clubbed a six off spinner Richard Dawson over long-on to reach his 13th Test

But for the 64,189 Boxing Day

crowd at the Melbourne Cricket Ground, it was the belligerent nnings by under-fire captain Steve Waugh that had them spellbound.

Waugh, batting for his cricket life after selectors said he would not be guaranteed future selection beyond next week's final Sydney Test, strode to the crease to a sustained ovation.

He carved up the attack with 12 vintage boundaries and reached his 46th Test half-century off 49 balls in just under an hour.

Waugh had a scare on 56 when he edged the second new ball to Mark Butcher in the slips off Andy Caddick, but Butcher sportingly conceded that he was not sure of making the catch and Waugh batted

At stumps Australia had moved to a formidable 356 for three, the most runs in a day's play at the MCG, bettering the 355 for eight Australia scored against India in

"He was just the same as ever, ruthless, and it looked to me as if he had a point to prove and that's the way he batted," Langer said of

Hayden said: "He's (Waugh) a

true ice man under pressure and he came out all class today and played exactly the way we are used to him Langer batted all day to be

unconquered on 146 with 19 fours and a six, while Waugh remained unbeaten on 62 off 78 balls. Hayden, who scored 197 and 103 in the first Brisbane Test. brought up his 12th Test hundred in

thrilling fashion, his second 50 reeled off 44 balls. He was out soon after for 102, skying Caddick to mid-off where John Crawley stood his ground to accept an outstretched catch.

Hayden has now scored 478 runs in the series at 95.6. "One of those events in

Australian cricket where the crowd can get your adrenaline going, and it

champions, overtaking Australia on

the ICC log, despite having been

heavily beaten in home and away

series by the Australians last sea-

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Kallis leads the way

Australia opener Matthew Hayden takes a bow after reaching three figures

on the opening day of the fourth Ashes Test against England at the MCG

Cricket

AFP, Durban

Jacques Kallis made an unbeaten half-century as South Africa fought back after a poor start on the first day of the first Test against Pakistar at Kingsmead on Thursday.

Kallis scored 62 not out as South Africa reached 171 for four at tea after being sent in to bat.

Kallis and Gary Kirsten (56) put on 122 for the third wicket after both opening batsmen, Graeme Smith and Herschelle Gibbs, were dismissed cheaply. Kirsten and Kallis, South Africa's

most accomplished players, retrieved the situation with solid batting and Pakistan captain Waqar Younis must have started to wonder whether the decision to go into the match with only four bowlers was

Only off-spinner Saqlain Mushtaq and all-rounder Abdur Razzaq were picked to back up the two opening bowlers, Waqar and Mohammad Sami. Saglain made an important

breakthrough, however, when Kirsten was out in bizarre fashion. One ball after being caught at slip off a Saglain no-ball, the off-spinner sent down an identical delivery which spun enough to catch the edge of the left-hander's bat and again went into the hands of Younis Khan at slip.

faced 118 balls and hit nine fours. Kallis, who started the match

with a Test average of exactly 50, went to another Test half-century off 93 balls with six fours and a sweetlytimed six over midwicket off Saglain. Wagar and Sami both claimed a

tions. Rain fell before the players took the field, delaying the start by 40 minutes. Smith and Gibbs both started confidently, scoring 27 off the first

five overs before Smith drove at a full-pitched ball from Sami without moving his feet, edging a catch to wicketkeeper Kamran Akmal. Gibbs was out to a loose shot.

side but hitting a straightforward catch off a thick outside edge to Faisal Iqbal at backward point. Pakistan left out fast bowler Mohammad Zahid, who was expected to make his return to Test

cricket after a four-vear absence

because of a back injury. Despite taking five for 43 against South Africa A in Pietermaritzburg last weekend, Zahid was overlooked as Pakistan opted to pick just three specialist bowlers and all-

South Africa recalled left-arm spinner Nicky Boje for his first appearance since the first Test against Australia last season while all-rounder Andrew Hall was left out.

If South Africa win the two-match

series they will become the

Kirsten c Younis Khan b Saqlain 56 Kallis not out attempting to force Wagar to the off-

> To bat: M. Boucher, S. Pollock, N. Boje, M. Ntini, M. Hayward.

Bowler 2 12 35 Wagar 3 48 13 Sami 8 0 33 Razzag Saglain 18 0 54 Pakistan: Waqar Younis (captain),

Mushtaq, Mohammad Sami. Umpires: Steve Bucknor and

Cricket

BBC ONLINE/AFP, London

Pakistan are hoping that Sri Lanka and England will visit early next year for a one-day series if India are unable to go through with their scheduled tour.

India are due to play three Tests and three one-dayers in Pakistan, according to the International Cricket Council (ICC) fixture list. But the Indian government has

for the last two years refused to allow the teams to play Tests against each other. Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB)

chairman Taugir Zia said both the Sri Lankan board and the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) had been asked about their availability

series since a bomb blast in May forced New Zealand to cut short their tour.

Australia asked to play their three-Test series at neutral venues in November.

Bangladesh have agreed to tour late England last visited Pakistan in

2000. Josing the one-day series 2-1. but winning a three-Test series 1-0. Zia said he had held a

board and ICC officials and asked them to set a deadline for confirming "Right now we have not set a date for them to confirm the tour, but

we would like them to do so as soon as possible," he said.

"We can't afford to keep waiting Meanwhile, AFP from Karachi

each other in a World Cup 2003

for political ends" but acknowledged that he had limited power to resolve the dispute. Pakistan President General Pervez Musharraf told Gray that Pakistan would be prepared to play

said during his visit to Pakistan

earlier this month that the ICC

believed "sports should not be used

India at a neutral venue provided Pakistan's tour to India in 2004 was also played at a neutral venue. Indian sports minister Vikram Verma has said there is no chance of cricket between the two countries

unless "cross-border terrorism is put to an end. The Muslim-majority Kashmir is divided between Pakistan and India and is claimed by both. The two

countries have fought two of their three wars over Kashmir dispute since gaining independence from Britain in 1947. Pakistan and India are to play

game at Centurion in South Africa



(Indian cricket board president) "We've decided to stand by our players on the ICC World Cup contracts issue. Certain restrictive clauses in the proposed ICC contracts are unjustified and the Indian board will not be a party in an



portable pitch at the Eden Park for a low-scoring match here. India were shot out for 108 after being put in to bat in the opening day-night game to register their lowest-ever total against New

AFP, Auckland

scoring 109-7 after being reduced to 52-6 at one stage. "The pitch was not ideal for a one-day game," Fleming said after his team's three-wicket victory for a

1-0 lead in the seven-match series.

New Zealand also struggled to

surpass their rivals' small total.

Zealand in 62 one-dayers.

"I don't think the wicket was ok yet. It was very testing. It was twopaced and bowlers will agree to that. The ball will hold a little bit and the low bounce sometimes made it tough. We need some improve-

Fleming said his team had not asked for seamer-friendly tracks despite winning the two-Test series 2-0 and then the opening one-dayer

"I just have one thing to say, that

we are not asking for these wickets,"

he said. Both the Tests were low-scoring affairs, with New Zealand alone crossing the 200-mark once in four 'We don't want wickets like this,

in terms of moving around. We don't promote the topic of doctoring the pitches. We want to see entertaining cricket throughout this summer. I'll take this opportunity to say that. "I thought the pitch here was going to be good. Our bowlers

thought there would be a bit of bounce in it early and we thought we could carry on from Hamilton (venue of the second Test). "We wanted to grab the initiative with four genuine wicket-takers and spinner (Daniel) Vettori. We were

positive, yet we were surprised by

the way it (the pitch) behaved."

India captain Sourav Ganguly echoed his counterpart's sentiments, saying it was not easy batting on such a track.

"Not only our batsmen, but also those who have been brought up on such pitches struggled. The pitch here was two-paced. The odd ball kept a bit low and the shot-making

"It is not good for anybody. It gives false confidence to bowlers as

to pass 50 in the two Tests

FLYING KIWI: New Zealand all-rounder Jacob Oram in his final delivery

"I don't think you will get such a pitch anywhere in the world which did so much," Ganguly said of the wicket which was dropped only last

was not easy. Ganguly said the nature of pitches used in Tests and the first one-dayer here could be gauged from the fact that only three batsmen had so far scored half-

well. If you keep producing decks like this you'll have poor scores,' India's Rahul Dravid and Sachin Tendulkar and New Zealand's Mark Richardson were the only batsmen

stride during the opening one-dayer against India in Auckland yesterday.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

Pakistan have not hosted a

But both South Africa and next year.

teleconference with the Indian the tour.

for long.

reported Pakistan are pushing the International Cricket Council (ICC) to use its influence over India for the resumption of cricket ties. ICC President Malcolm Gray

Scoreboard at tea on the first day of wicket after Wagar sent South Africa and Pakistan at Kingsmead on SOUTH AFRICA: First innings Smith c Akmal b Sami Gibbs c Faisal b Waqar

SCOREBOARD

Dippenaar c Akmal b Saglain McKenzie not out Extras: (lb1, nb14) Total: (4 wkts, 51 overs) Fall of wickets: 1-27, 2-33, 3-155, 4-

Taufeeq Umar, Salim Elahi, Younis

Khan, Inzamam-ul-Haq, Yousuf Youhana, Faisal Iqbal, Abdur Razzaq, Kamran Akmal, Saqlain

Srinivas Venkataraghavan.

International Cricket Council Test Kirsten batted for 172 minutes, Skippers slam pitch Pakistan ponder tri-series SPORTS REPORTER Cricket