

# Under-strength WI

Cricket

REUTERS, Johannesburg

West Indies will have to dig deep in the Test series against South Africa to make up for the absence of several players through injury, according to coach Gus Logie.

"We've had to change a few players in our squad because of injuries," Logie told this news agency before Friday's start to the first of the four Tests.

"That has been a setback, but it's nothing we can't overcome. In fact, it will give our players more impetus to know that they have to dig even deeper."

Fast bowler Jerome Taylor, all-rounder Omar Banks and batsman Marlon Samuels have all suffered injuries.

"You come here with a set plan, and you expect certain quality players to fit into the whole make-up of the squad," Logie said.

"Omar Banks was certainly a big part of that set-up, Jerome Taylor is a young, exciting prospect who we were looking forward to see bowling

in South Africa conditions, and Marlon Samuels has been around and experienced.

"We thought we had the right combination coming here, and it's unfortunate that we have had to rethink that."

Left-arm wrist spinner replaced Taylor with uncapped Dwayne Smith coming in for Samuels. Fast bowler Adam Sanford has been called up to replace Banks.

"The replacements will have to fit in, and the players who were here originally will have to take on more responsibility," Logie said.

The West Indies will be motivated by a desire to avenge their 5-0 thrashing in the Test series the last time they toured South Africa in 1998-99 their first whitewash.

"That is something we look forward to as professional sportsmen, playing to the best of our ability to gain not only the respect of the opposition but of your own people and of the sporting public," Logie said. "If we do the right things, the results will take care of themselves."

Captain Brian Lara is likely to be the West Indian scalp most prized by the South Africans, but Shivnarine

Chanderpaul scored 245 in the drawn tour match against Free State to signal a timely return to form.

Opens Wavell Hinds and Chris Gayle both had a productive tour of Zimbabwe, but the attack appeared threadbare with inexperienced fast bowler Fidel Edwards the only consistent threat.

The West Indies beat Zimbabwe 1-0 in the Test series, and rallied from 1-2 to claim the one-day series 3-2.

### SQUADS

**SOUTH AFRICA** (from): Graeme Smith (captain), Mark Boucher, Herschelle Gibbs, Andrew Hall, Jacques Kallis, Neil McKenzie, Makhaya Ntini, Andre Nel, Robin Peterson, Shaun Pollock, Jacques Rudolph, Martin van Jaarsveld, Garnett Kruger.

**WEST INDIES** (from): Brian Lara (captain), Carlton Baugh, Shivnarine Chanderpaul, Corey Collymore, Mervyn Dillon, Vashbert Drakes, Fidel Edwards, Daren Ganga, Chris Gayle, Wavell Hinds, Ridley Jacobs, Dave Mohammed, Ravi Rampaul, Ramnaresh Sarwan, Dwayne Smith.

**Umpires:** Simon Taufel and Darrell Hair (both Australia).

# Siddik, Kumara share lead

PRESS RELEASE

Bangladesh's Mohammad Siddikur Rahman was sharing the lead with Lalit Kumara of Sri Lanka after the third round of the Parrex 19th Bangladesh Amateur Golf Championship at the Kurmitola Golf Club yesterday.

Both Siddik and Lalit have scores of 214 (2-under). Kumara shot a 69 and made up the 3-stroke difference on his fellow leader.

Siddik again started the day with a birdie on the 1st hole and opened up 2-stroke lead over Chandradasa who had a par on the 1st. Lalit also had a birdie on the 1st and maintained the same difference with Siddik at the turn, both finishing the first nine at 1-under.

Lalit had four birdies in the first nine but a double bogey on the 2nd hole and a bogey on the 9th kept him alongside Siddik at the turn. Lalit and Siddik had the same score after the 14th but Siddik had a double bogey on the 15th and Lalit with a par on the same hole made up two shots on Siddik, being only one shot behind.

KA Chandradasa, who was one shot behind the leader after the second round, could not keep up with the blistering pace and shot 3 over par 75 to be in third position with a score of 218.

Mohammad Sohail of Bangladesh played a beautiful round of 70 (2-under) to move up to the fourth place.

The ladies section of the tournament started today, with 22 lady golfers participating.

CD Hwang is leading the field with a score of 86. Lying in second place is Jung Sook Jung with a score of 88.

Men's final round and Ladies final round will be played on Friday. Third day's best gross scores are:

Name	Gross
1. Lalit Kumara (SRI)	214
2. Siddikur Rahman	214
3. KA Chandradasa (SR)	218
4. Mohd Sohail	220
5. Shahid Javed Khan (PAK)	222
6. Manav Das (IND)	224
7. Vikrant Chapra (IND)	224
8. Vaqas Ahmed (PAK)	227
9. Mehtab Dere (IND)	229
10. Milon	229



MEHDI MAHDAVIA

# Mahdavia, Iraq Asia's best

AFP, Kuala Lumpur

Iranian star Mehdi Mahdavia was crowned Asian player of the year here Wednesday as the battling footballers from war-torn Iraq were named the best international team of 2003.

Mahdavia had an outstanding year with German side Hamburg SV, helping the Bundesliga outfit to fourth place in the table and inspiring them to victory in the League Cup.

"I am delighted that I was picked. It is a great honour," said Mahdavia, who edged out Thailand's Theerak Chaiman and Uzbekistan's Maksim Shatskikh at the Asian Football Confederation awards night.

"There are so many top-quality players in Asia and to be considered the best among all of them is just incredible," Mahdavia added.

Japanese star Yoshito Okubo, of Cerezo Osaka, won the AFC young player of the year while Cha Kyung-bok was named AFC coach of the year after taking Korea's champions Seongnam Chumma to their third straight K-League title.

"Cha has encouraged the players to keep the ball on the ground and work hard," the AFC said.

Elsewhere, there was praise for the courage shown by Iraq, who against all odds qualified for the 2004 Asian Cup in China despite massive disruption caused by the US-led military offensive to topple Saddam Hussein.

Other winners were Al Ain (club of the year), Bai Jie of China (woman player of the year), North Korea (women's team of the year), Iran (futsal team award), Moradi Masoud of Iran (match official award) and South Korea won the AFC fair play award.



PHOTO: STAR

Scene from yesterday's fourth round fixture of the First Division Chess League between Narayanganj City Club and Titas Club at the NSC chess room

# Biman alone atop

SPORTS REPORTER

Leaders Bangladesh Biman defeated Monipur Chess Club 4-0 in the fourth round of the First Division Chess League at the NSC chess room yesterday.

Biman's Grand Master Ziaur Rahman and two International Masters Abdullah Al-Rakib, Enamul Hossain Rajib and Fide Master Rezaul Haque won their respective boards against Sanatan Zahid, Bhaskar, Jewel and Shaheed to help their side raise the tally to 15.5 points.

Loenine Chess Club were in the second position with 13 points.

In yesterday's round, Loenine beat Destiny 2000 Limited 4-0.

Bangladesh Ansars were trailing Loenine by a point after they drew with Sonali Bank 2-2.

In the other matches, Titas Club drew with Narayanganj City Chess Club 2-2, Kamalapur Samaj Kalyan and Kriira Sangha beat Anushilan Daba Kriira Chakra 3.5-5, Mohakhali Prodeep Sangha beat Nakhlapara Jubo Kallyan Sangh 3-1, Farashganj Sporting Club drew with Dhaka University Chess Team 2-2 while Fighter Kriira Chakra beat Rajshahi Daba Unnayan Sangstha 3-1.

The fifth round will start at the same venue today at 3pm.

# Mahmud's bold batting

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**DHAKA:** First innings (overnight 2 for 1 in 20 overs)  
 Al Shahrari run out 30  
 Mehra b & b Anisur 0  
 Jahangir lbw b Anisur 0  
 Sanwar b Anisur 14  
 Halim Shah batting 89  
 K Mahmud c Faruque b Mustadir 51  
 Neeayam c Kamaluddin 62  
 Anwar c Mustadir b Kamaluddin 0  
 Fahim batting 34  
 Extras: (b-2, nb-15, w-5) 22  
 Total: (For 7 wickets in 93 overs) 302  
 Fall of wickets: 1-2, 2-18, 3-54, 4-54, 5-143, 6-249, 7-249.

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Bikas	15	0	69	0
Anisur	13	5	27	3
Kamaluddin	16	3	60	2
Ali Arman	18	2	53	0
Mustadir	25	5	73	1
Nahidul	2	0	9	0
Imran	4	1	9	0

**Khulna v Sylhet**  
 Venue: Sylhet Stadium  
**KHULNA:** First innings 160 all out in 76.5 overs (Tushar 43, Razzak 34, Sajjadul 25, Bashir 20, Nayeam 5-45, Tapas 2-22)

Sylhet	O	M	R	W
Shishir lbw b Razzak	14			
Imtiaz c Raju b Razzak	30			
Parvez b Razzak	0			
Sami c Raju b Razzak	2			
Nasirul b Monjurul	2			

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Al Amin	12	4	26	2
Monjurul	13	3	29	1
Razzak	16	1	11	7
Bashir	9	6	4	0

**KHULNA:** Second innings  
 Sajjadul lbw b Nayeem 18  
 Hasibul lbw b Sanjid 2  
 Raju lbw b Al-Wadud 48  
 Tushar b Nabil 3  
 Salauddin c Imtiaz b Nayeem 7  
 Bashir batting 16  
 Hasan b Tapas 6  
 Asadullah c Imtiaz b Al-Wadud 6  
 Razzak run out 5  
 Extras: (b-9, lb-8, w-1) 18  
 Total: (for 8 wickets in 48.1 overs) 129  
 Fall of wickets: 1-20, 2-32, 3-39, 4-56, 5-99, 6-108, 7-119.

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Tapas	13	1	6	2
Sanjid	5	1	10	1
Nabil	12	3	29	1
Nayeem	10	2	27	2
Al-Wadud	8	2	17	2

**Rajshahi v Chittagong**  
 Venue: Comilla Stadium

**RAJSHAH:** First innings (overnight 230 for 8 in 92 overs)  
 Rafiqul lbw b Arafat 17  
 Zunaed c b Alamgir 26  
 Humayun lbw b Alamgir 29  
 Zahurul c Sabbir b Arafat 33  
 Nuruzzaman c Anisul b Arafat 39  
 Mashud c Minhazul b Alamgir 16  
 Anisur c Deobobrat b Arafat 23  
 Shahjada c Masum b Arafat 18  
 Aminul not out 2  
 Sohail lbw b Arafat 2  
 Saifullah c Anisul b Arafat 0  
 Extras: (b-3, lb-6, nb-6, w-2) 19  
 Total: (all out in 96.4 overs) 234  
 Fall of wickets: 1-30, 2-43, 3-94, 4-118, 5-174, 6-184, 7-230, 8-230, 9-234.

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Alamgir	17	6	37	3
Deobobrat	14	2	34	0
Arafat	36	10	62	7
Hasan	19	5	42	0
Masum	5	1	15	0
Faisal	5	1	25	0

**CHITTAGONG:** First innings  
 Anisul c Humayun b Sohail 53  
 Masum st K Mashud b Saifullah 12  
 Azam st K Mashud b Saifullah 13  
 Minhazu c Nuruzzaman v Saifullah 28  
 Akram c Sohail b Saifullah 38  
 Faisal not out 21  
 Sabib b Shahjada 2  
 Ahsanullah lbw b Sohail 1  
 Arafat batting 1  
 Extras: (b-6, lb-4, nb-3) 13  
 Total: (For 7 wickets in 83 overs) 191  
 Fall of wickets: 1-23, 2-49, 3-106, 4-151, 5-162, 6-182, 7-184.

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Aminul jr	10	4	12	0
Shahzada	17	2	44	1
Saifullah	32	11	54	4
Sohail	21	6	62	2
Humayun	3	1	9	0

# CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

43 Wahine's offering  
 44 Line of fashion  
 46 Tell target  
 50 Timber wolf  
 53 Through of Cambodia  
 54 Quaker address  
 57 Tarzan portrayer  
 58 Extra in "The Producers"  
 59 "Let's Make a Deal"  
 60 Grant's opponent  
 61 A welcome sight?

**DOWN**

21 Shade source  
 23 Tasseled topper  
 25 Bridge fee  
 26 Intimation  
 27 — it up (overacts)  
 28 Use the phone  
 29 La Scala show-stopper  
 30 Start a garden  
 31 Perch dish  
 35 Chum boat  
 38 "What'd I tell ya?"  
 40 "Give — break"  
 42 "Bolero" composer  
 45 Marathon fraction  
 47 Baby buggy  
 48 Judy's daughter  
 49 Blue-pencil  
 50 Inc., in Eng.  
 51 "So that's it, eh?"  
 52 Halloween cry  
 54 Favorable vote

**Solution time: 24 mins.**

**CRYPTOQUIP**

HC U IYVGP NC JOHANVXO.  
 ADUTXL U JEUZ DPUD'.  
 U IHT PHD. H'L AUZ HD'.  
 U GXEE - NYD.

**Saturday's Cryptoquip:** IF THERE WERE A BILLION DOLLARS IN THE PRICE OF GOOSE FEATHERS, DOWN WOULD BE UP.

**Today's Cryptoquip Clue:** D equals T

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11		12	13			14			
15			16			17			
18			19	20	21				
22	23	24		25	26	27			
28	29	30		31	32				
33			34	35	36				
37			38	39	40				
41			42	43					
44			45	46	47	48	49		
50	51	52		53	54		55		
56				57			58		
59				60			61		

# Kale charged

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again after receiving a reply from the cricketer.

Two national selectors, Kiran More and Pronob Roy, alleged in a written complaint to the BCCI last month that Kale offered them each a bribe of one million rupees (22,000 dollars) to be picked for the current tour of Australia.

Kale, who was suspended from cricket till the inquiry was completed, vehemently denied any wrongdoing and has appealed to the courts to be allowed to continue playing.

Subba Rao, who spoke to Kale and the two selectors, recommended to the BCCI there was a "prima facie case to proceed further."

The scandal is the biggest to hit Indian cricket since the match-fixing saga three years ago that led to life bans for former captain Mohammad Azharuddin and Ajay Sharma and five-year suspensions on fellow internationals Ajay Jadeja and Manoj Prabhakar.

# India call up Kartik

AFP, New Delhi

Left-arm spinner Murali Kartik is set to join the Indian team in Australia on Thursday after being summoned by the team management to reinforce the bowling attack.

Kartik, who many believe should have been in the original squad, flew out late on Wednesday night and will arrive in Adelaide in time for the second Test starting on Friday.

The 27-year-old, who played the last of his four Tests against Zimbabwe in New Delhi in November, 2000, has claimed nine wickets at an average of 34.33.

He impressed during the recent tri-series at home against New Zealand and Australia, but the selectors preferred the seasoned Anil Kumble and Harbhajan Singh in the original 16-man touring squad.

The team management was forced to have a rethink after Harbhajan bowled poorly in the drawn first Test at Brisbane last week.

India have the option of replacing Harbhajan with Kumble for the Test, but Kartik will provide the extra cushion in case the tour selectors decide to play two spinners at Adelaide.

The wicket at the Adelaide Oval normally assists spin on the last two days.

# Razaq staying back

## Flemo checks fitness today

REUTERS, undated

Stephen Fleming could yet lead New Zealand in the first Test 12 against Pakistan after the captain saw a specialist about his troublesome stomach injury on Thursday.

Fleming's doctor suggested the New Zealand captain play for his province Wellington in a four-day match starting on Friday to determine the extent of the injury picked up in last month's tour of India.

"The specialist has advised us that Stephen should play for Wellington tomorrow," coach John Bracewell said. "That will give us the chance to determine how the injury responds."

"How he copes in that game will give us a clear indication of whether or not he is fit enough to be considered for Test selection."

Fleming suffered the injury in the latter part of last the tour of India and missed the subsequent five one-day international tour of Pakistan, which New Zealand lost 5-0. The first Test against Pakistan begins on December 19.

Meanwhile, Pakistan all-rounder Abdul Razaq will not travel to New Zealand with the rest of the squad on Thursday after being advised to rest by doctors.

# A side off

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tional Airlines (PIA), Customs, Water and Power Development Authority (Wapda), Khan Research Labs (KRL) and Pakistan Telecommunication Company Limited (PTCL).

Group B consists of Agriculture Development Bank of Pakistan, Karachi Port Trust (KPT), Sui Gas Corporation of Pakistan, Allied Bank, National Bank of Pakistan and Habib Bank Limited.

# Saurav playing with spin

Cricket

AFP, Adelaide

Indian skipper Saurav Ganguly has to decide whether to bring in the experienced Anil Kumble, persevere with struggling Harbhajan Singh or play both spinners in Friday's second cricket Test with Australia at the Adelaide Oval.

Ganguly has thrown the gauntlet down to 151 Test wicket-taker Harbhajan, saying he must improve on his showing in the drawn Gabba Test in which he claimed lowly figures of 0-68 and 1-01.

Ganguly, emboldened by India's encouraging start to the four-Test series, is contemplating the idea of fielding two spinners, depending on whether the Adelaide wicket is sufficiently dry for them to prosper.

Australian captain Steve Waugh anticipates a good batting wicket for the first three days and already has two spinners in place, with left-spinner Stuart MacGill and part-time left-arter Simon Katich.

"We're still deciding whether to

play two or one spinner. We will look at the wicket tomorrow morning and see how it looks for the first day," Ganguly told his match-eve press conference in Adelaide on Thursday.

"Harbhajan has been working hard in the nets, he's a quality bowler. But I'll put it this way, he has to improve and the quicker he improves the better it is for the team."

Kumble has got 358 Test wickets behind him so he will bring a lot of experience and quality to the team, and if it is dry he'll be a handy bowler."

Harbhajan said he had a problem with his bowling rhythm in Brisbane and was taking time adjusting to his first tour of Australia.

Kumble has bowled in one previous Test at the Adelaide Oval, taking a combined 3-174 on the last tour to Australia in 1999-2000. He bowls a quicker, 'skidding' type of delivery compared with the flighted balls of Harbhajan, who terrorised Australia with 32 wickets in the last series in India in 2001.

Ganguly, who scored an impressive 144 at the Gabba, is positive about India's chances

given how they played first up in Brisbane on a green, bouncy wicket.

"Coming out of the first Test overseas without being one-down in the series is important and that's the same for all teams touring in different parts of the world," he said.

"The first Test is always the key because then you get used to conditions a bit more than you are in the first game."

"We are prepared and we have been in this country for a long time now, we're more used to it and hope for a better performance here."

Ganguly is anticipating a more fired-up Australian team for the Adelaide Test after they were taken by surprise by the overall Indian performance on an unhelpful pitch.

"We've (traditionally) not played well in the first Test of the series, (although) we did perform reasonably well in Brisbane. But this is a new Test here, a new day and we all have to start from scratch tomorrow and we have to get mentally strong and start again," he said.

# England under pressure

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concede 29 runs in his opening three overs before being replaced.

The Sri Lankan captain was forced to press Muralitharan into the attack after 13 overs in a bid to contain the England openers.

The spinner did not let his captain down as he dismissed Trecothick and Vaughan in his five overs.