



Did U Know?

Gary Kirsten scored 76 from 180 balls in the second innings of the third and final Test against New Zealand at Basin Reserve on March 26, 2004. It was his final Test innings, his thirty fourth half century, and he finished his Test career with 7,289 runs at an average of 45.27.



ESPN
Sportscentre Hindi
Sport News
Live at 8:30 pm
English Premier Football League
Leeds United vs Leicester City
Live at 12:55 am (Tuesday)

STAR Sports
Sportsline
Sport News
Live at 8:00 pm

TEN Sports
India vs Pakistan
Second Test, Day One
Live at 11:00 am



Geoff Marsh
(Zimbabwe cricket coach)
"It's a very sad day for Zimbabwe cricket. He was a brilliant captain, you only have to look at his performances to see that. He gave everything he possibly could to cricket in Zimbabwe. I'm very disappointed, and very saddened."
After Heath Streak's resignation.

Star WHIZZ KID COMPETITION 209

Tick the correct answers, post to
The Daily Star
Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm April 9, 2004 and draw shortly afterwards

- Who will captain the Bangladesh football team at the SAF Games?
Monwar Alfaz Rana
- How many ODI hundreds has Sachin Tendulkar scored?
37 36 32
- Who clinched the Indian Wells ATP Masters Series title?
Federer Roddick Agassi
- Who lifted the Spanish Cup?
Zaragoza Real Madrid Villareal
- Who became man-of-the-match in the fifth and final one-day international between India and Pakistan?
Name
Class Roll No.
School Address
Phone: (If any)



Bangladesh vs Zimbabwe A
Fourth Limited-overs Match
Venue: Khulna Divisional Stadium



YOU PITCH THE BALL THERE: Pakistan leg-spinner Danish Kaneria (R) tries to draw the attention of teammate Mohammad Sami (C) during a practice session at the Gaddafi Stadium in Lahore yesterday. Pakistan take on arch-rivals India in the do-or-die second Test from today.

What's on off the field

AFP, Lahore



Englishmen, umpires, bookies and the Indians themselves.
Or that is what one is being led to believe.

The reaction after India clinched the one-day series 3-2 and won their maiden Test on Pakistan soil last week has been so extreme that few are willing to predict the fall-out of another defeat.

Everyone, from political parties and retired army generals to cricket administrators, has an opinion why Pakistan has been unable to thrash India as it did in the past.

And not all of it has to do with the action on the field.

The influential Islamic Muttahida Majlis-e-Amal alliance last week alleged that the cricket defeat was a "goodwill gesture" from President Pervez Musharraf to help Indian Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee win the upcoming parliamentary polls.

Foreign office spokesman Masood Khan was forced to issue an official denial on Saturday, saying "winning or losing at cricket was not part of the confidence-building measures" being undertaken by the respective governments.

Retired army general Javed Nasir, writing in Sunday's edition of the Lahore-based 'Nation' newspaper, pointed fingers at English curator Andy Atkinson, the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB), the selectors and the umpires for the defeat in the Multan Test.

"The world at large does not know the facts and truth about our defeat," the general began, arguing that Atkinson prepared a dead pitch which "nullified" Pakistan's renowned pace bowling weapon.

"Atkinson produced wickets of India's choice, he should be paid his fees and sent home immediately," Nasir wrote.

"Neither (chief selector Wasim) Bari selected the best squad, or (captain) Inzamam-ul-Haq picked the best 11 out of it.

"Our best batsmen who were set

for big scores were given out as a bonus prize to the Indians to ensure our defeat.

"If the PCB chairman (Shahryar Khan) and the management had even an iota of self-respect, honour and dignity, they should all resign en masse."

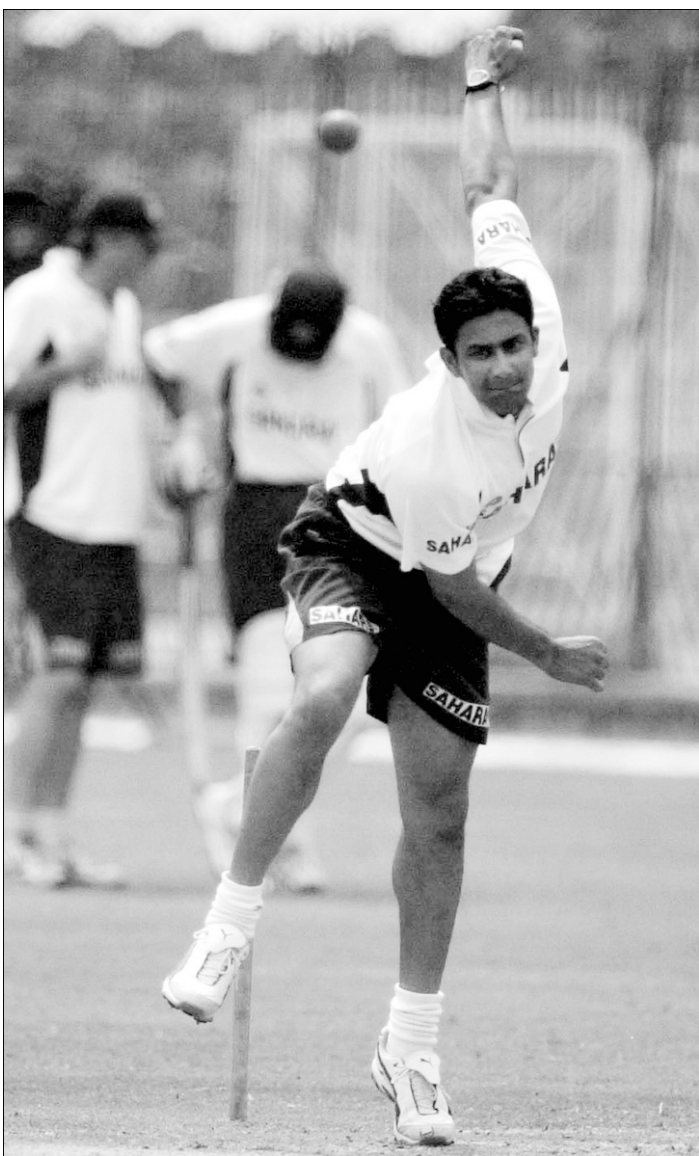
The retired general even suggested how Shoaib Akhtar and company should bowl to the Indians.

"They must avoid over-pitched

deliveries when bowling yorkers because they could become full tosses," he wrote. "The pace bowlers should use a mix of bouncers and yorkers."

That the Indians have played better cricket so far on their first full tour of Pakistan in almost 15 years has been acknowledged by Inzamam, team coach Javed

SEE PAGE 14 COL 5



WHAT IF IT'S A GREEN TOP! India leg-spinner Anil Kumble bowls in the nets during a practice session at the Gaddafi Stadium yesterday.

Streak didn't want this



REUTERS, Durban

Pace bowler Heath Streak has disputed Zimbabwe's version of his resignation as team captain although his international career appears to be over.

"I don't want to say anything until matters have been cleared, because things aren't exactly as they have come out," Streak told Reuters from Bulawayo on Saturday.

The Zimbabwe Cricket Union (ZCU) announced on Friday that Streak had called for an overhaul of the selectors, saying he had no confidence in them. The board added it had refused his demands and accepted his offer to quit.

The ZCU appeared to rule out ever picking Streak again by saying

he had retired "from all forms of cricket", although he is currently captaining Matabeleland against Mashonaland in a first-class match in Bulawayo.

Asked if his decision was to be



HEATH STREAK

announced jointly later, Streak added: "Something like that, what has happened so far is not my wish."

Streak, a fine bowler and very useful lower-order batsman, played 59 Tests and 183 one-day internationals. He took 202 wickets at 27.58 in a struggling team, while averaging 23.55 with the bat.

He captained Zimbabwe in 21 Tests, in which they achieved six of their eight victories, drew six and lost 11 matches.

Zimbabwe won 18 of 68 one-day internationals under him. The ZCU has appointed wicketkeeper Tatenda Taibu, Streak's vice-captain, to the captaincy. The 20-year-old is the country's first black captain and will become the youngest captain in Test history when he leads Zimbabwe in the first Test against Sri Lanka in Harare on May 6.

A team aiming series win today

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh A captain Alok Kapali will be looking to seal the one-day series against visiting Zimbabwe A in the fourth limited-overs match at Khulna today.

The home side leads the five-match series 2-1 after winning Friday's third match at the Bangabandhu National Stadium by 60 runs.

Bangladesh pulled off a thrilling two-run victory in the first match at the Shaheed Chandu Stadium in Bogra while the visitors bounced back in a rain-interrupted encounter at the same venue.

The final match of the series takes place at Khulna on April 6.

Playing for fair play

SPORTS REPORTER

Fair play will be objective when the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) Under-14 Festival starts at the Bangabandhu National Stadium today. The festival of football kicks off with hosts Bangladesh taking on Sri Lanka at 5pm.

"The idea of the competition is purely to play the game in the spirit of fair play. Participants will be awarded points for good behaviour on the field and after six games the team with the highest number of points will receive a fair play trophy," Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) general secretary Anwarul Haq Helal said at a press briefing yesterday.

FIXTURES

April 5: Bangladesh v Sri Lanka
April 6: Iran v Kyrgyzstan
April 8: Iran v Sri Lanka

Bangladesh v Kyrgyzstan
April 9: Sri Lanka v Kyrgyzstan
Bangladesh v Iran

Bowl straight, asks Akram

AFP, Lahore

Pakistan's pace bowling battery, led by Shoaib Akhtar, can demolish India in Monday's second Test here if they control their speed and bowl straight, according to the legendary Wasim Akram.

"My advice to our fast bowlers is to bowl straight, because in modern day cricket batsmen do not fear fast bowling," Akram told AFP.

Pakistan, trailing 0-1 in the three-match series, hope to take advantage of the rock-hard Gaddafi Stadium wicket that sports a tinge of grass to outwit the Indians.

"You bowl straight to put pressure on the batsmen because bowling fast is not the main thing," Akram said.

"The Indians did that very well in Multan and won even on a flat wicket."

Even as India bowled out Pakistan twice to fashion an innings victory over the arch-rivals, Akhtar went wicketless in his 32 overs.

"The important thing is to make batsmen play all six deliveries in an over," said Akram, who claimed 414 Test wickets and a world record 502 one-day wickets.

SEE PAGE 14 COL 4

Contrasting captains

AFP, Lahore



Rival captains Inzamam-ul-Haq of Pakistan and Rahul Dravid of India begin Monday's second Test here under contrasting pressures amid growing focus on the greenish wicket.

Pakistan, who lost the first Test at Multan by an innings and 52 runs last week, need a win to stay in contention for winning the high-profile three-match series.

And India hope to overcome their tendency of squandering the lead in overseas series, as they have done in Zimbabwe, the West Indies and Australia over the last three years.

"There is a lot of pressure on us," Inzamam conceded. "You come under tremendous pressure when you are playing at home and not performing well."

"It is a very difficult situation for us, but I think the wicket here will help us bounce back as long as the bowlers do their bit."

The rock-hard centre-strip at the

Gaddafi Stadium, which sports a tinge of grass, is expected to aid Pakistan's pace attack led by Shoaib Akhtar.

But Dravid, leading India in the absence of the injured Sourav Ganguly for the second Test in a row, was confident his team could perform as well as the rivals.

"Any wicket is the same for both teams," he said. "It all depends on how you take advantage of it."

"If the pitch has been prepared for Pakistan's fast bowlers, I think our seamers are equally capable of exploiting the conditions if they put the ball in the right areas."

Dravid said India, looking to win their first overseas series since beating Sri Lanka in 1993, were determined to set the record straight.

"It's been a long time we won a series outside the country so it will be great to do that," he said. "It is good to know the areas where we are weak and improve on them."

"We have been on a high like this before so I won't say that this is the best opportunity to do it."

"We just want to stick to the basics. History was not on our minds when we came here, but if

SEE PAGE 14 COL 2

Bronze day for Bangladesh

SPORTS REPORTER

It was a bronze day for Bangladesh at the 9th SAF Games in Islamabad yesterday after Doli Akhtar and Pradip Chandra stepped up on the podium.

Doli won her medal in the 100m breaststroke clocking 1:22.65 at the Pakistan Sports Complex Swimming Pool. The gold went to Bhabna Shuman of India with 1:20.94 while compatriot Mrudula Dhanraj grabbed the silver.

Weightlifting finally made its mark, if only in a small way for the country, when Pradip lifted a total of 262kg in 105kg class that saw Pakistan's Sajjad Amin twice create a new SAF Games record before lifting 340kg. India's Gur Minder got the silver with 325kg at the Community Centre.

The Bangladesh kabadi team ended its barren spell in the Games after they overwhelmed fellow no-hopers Nepal 41-13 at the Rawalpindi Army Stadium.

Elsewhere, Bangladesh's Mahbub Billah lost to Farjad Saif of Pakistan in the quarterfinals of the men's table tennis competition at the Hamidi Hall of Pakistan Sports Complex.

Mahmud lost 3-11, 10-12, 9-11, 8-11.

While cricket has been revitalised with India playing Pakistan in

SEE PAGE 14 COL 5

Hoggard scripts history



REUTERS, Bridgetown

England, inspired by a Matthew Hoggard hatrick, romped to an emotional eight-wicket victory over West Indies in the third Test on Saturday to clinch their first series triumph in the Caribbean since 1968.

Seamer Hoggard became only the 10th Englishman to take a Test hatrick as West Indies crumbled to 94 all out in their second innings, leaving England a target of just 93.

Captain Michael Vaughan made 32 and Marcus Trescothick 42 before Mark Butcher saw England home in just 20 overs to give them a 3-0 lead in the four-match series.

It was also the first time England have ever won three Tests in a series in West Indies.

The winning runs were greeted by roars of jubilation from thousands of England fans who all turned the Kensington Oval into their home venue.

Vaughan, however, seemed almost speechless before leading his players on a prolonged lap of honour in front of their chanting supporters.

"It means so much," he said. "It hasn't really sunk in. It's an amazing achievement."

"We expected a tough day when we arrived this morning."

"We'll definitely enjoy tonight and

we'll probably enjoy tomorrow."

While man-of-the-match Graham Thorpe kept England in the game on Friday with an undefeated 119 out of a total of 226, it was Hoggard who put the finishing touches.

West Indies resumed on 21 for one but Hoggard ripped the heart out of the home side with four for 25 from 11.1 overs before lunch before the innings ended in 42.1 overs.

Only Lara offered any resistance with 33 but he was helpless as his side's frail batting was exposed again, just as they had been in the first Test in Jamaica when they were skittled for 47.

Strike bowler Steve Harmison took three for 34 and all-rounder Andrew Flintoff, the key bowler of the first innings with five for 58, chipped in with two for 20.

West Indies lost Daren Ganga to Hoggard for 11 but Lara and vice-captain Ramnaresh Sarwan looked in the mood to battle.

But Lara, who suffered a nasty blow on his elbow from a Harmison delivery, could only watch from the non-striker's end as Hoggard took England's first hatrick since Darren Gough against Australia in Sydney in 1999.

First Sarwan drove straight to Ashley Giles at gully. Then left-hander Shivnarine Chanderpaul was trapped lbw by a ball which nipped back and Ryan Hinds, rooted to the crease, was snapped up at second slip Flintoff.

Hoggard, who finished with four

for 35, conceded afterwards there had been an element of luck to his hatrick delivery.

"I was thinking: 'Bowl your best ball, an in-swing, on to leg stump'. It didn't really swing. It went straight across and thankfully he nicked it," Hoggard told Sky Sports.

The fourth Test starts on April 10 in St John's, Antigua.

SCOREBOARD

Final scoreboard on the third day of the third Test between West Indies and England at Bridgetown on Saturday:

WEST INDIES: First innings 224 (Sarwan 63, Chanderpaul 50; Flintoff 5-58)

ENGLAND: First innings 226 (Thorpe 119 not out)

WEST INDIES: Second innings (overnight 21-1)

Gayle b Harmison	15
Ganga c Thorpe b Hoggard	33
Lara c Vaughan b Harmison	11
Sarwan c Giles b Hoggard	5
Chanderpaul lbw b Hoggard	0
Hinds c Flintoff b Hoggard	0
Jacobs c Butcher b Flintoff	1
Best c Trescothick b Flintoff	12
Collins run out	1
Collymore not out	6
Edwards c Hussain b Harmison	2
Extras: (lb-5, nb-3)	8
Total: (All out in 42.1 overs)	94
Fall of wickets: 1-19, 2-34, 3-45, 4-45, 5-45, 6-48, 7-80, 8-81, 9-85	

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Hoggard	14	4	35	4
Harmison	15.1	5	34	3
Flintoff	13	4	20	2

ENGLAND: Second innings

Trescothick c Jacobs b Collymore	42
Vaughan c Jacobs b Collymore	32
Butcher not out	13
Hussain not out	0
Extras: (lb-3, w-1, nb-2)	6
Total: (For 2 wks in 20 overs)	93

Fall of wickets: 1-57, 2-91

Did not bat: Thorpe, Flintoff, Read, Giles, Hoggard, Jones, Harmison

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Edwards	6	0	32	0
Best	3	0	18	0
Collymore	7	2	24	2
Collins	4	0	16	0

Result: England win by eight wickets.

Man-of-the-match: Graham Thorpe.



THAT'S THE ONE: Matthew Hoggard (2nd from L) and his teammates celebrate after the England paceman scalped Ryan Hinds (C) of the West Indies for his hatrick on the third day of the third Test in Bridgetown on Saturday.

PHOTO: AFP