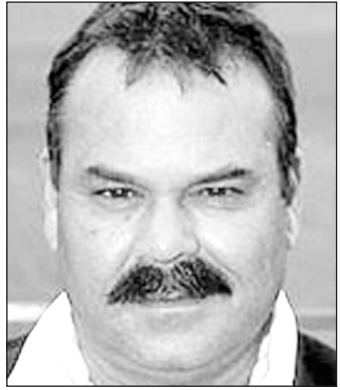




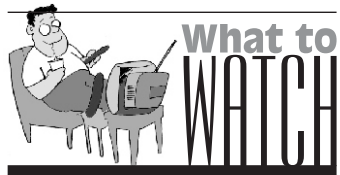
## Did U Know?

Sir Donald Bradman and Brian Lara share the same record. Not only are they the only batsmen to have scored two Test triple hundreds, they achieved the landmark at the same venues. Bradman at Headingley in and Lara at the Antigua Recreation Ground.



## Dav Whatmore

(Bangladesh cricket coach)  
"It is very simple. A great batsman played a great innings but we will get him out."  
Reacting to Brian Lara world record score of 400 not out.



## TEN Sports

India vs Pakistan  
Third Test, Day 4  
Live at 10.30 am

## ESPN

Sportscentre  
Sports programme  
Live at 8.30 pm  
English Premier League  
Arsenal vs Leeds  
Live at 12.55 am (Saturday)

## STAR Sports

Sportline  
Sports programme  
Live 8 pm

Star  
WHIZZ KID  
COMPETITION 210

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

Competition closes at 8 pm  
April 23, 2004 and draw  
shortly afterwards

- How many gold medals did Bangladesh win in the recently concluded SAF Games?  
5      4      3
- Who is the coach of Chelsea?  
Enriksson      Wenger      Ranieri
- What is the title of the official Euro 2004 song?  
Forma      Forza      Forza
- Who clinched the WTA Key Biscayne title?  
Venus      Henin      Serena
- What was the score of the India-Pakistan one-day series?

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

## Pakistan plan return tour

BBC ONLINE, undated

Pakistan and Indian officials are to meet to discuss future series between the two sides.  
India's current tour of Pakistan, their first for 15 years, has been a huge financial success despite poor attendances for the Test matches.  
The Pakistan Cricket Board has earned more than 11.5 million pounds from the tour.  
The two boards will now consider plans for a one-day series later this year with three games in

# New-style trading



## SPORTS REPORTER

The Corporate Cricket League took a real shape yesterday when most of the 12 business houses involved in the first day's bourse in what promises to be a new chapter in domestic cricket.

The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) launched the Corporate League after the Dhaka clubs refused to take part in the prestigious Premier League this year citing the imminent rainy season.

The non-appearance of the top clubs served a shattering blow to the cricketers, as the Dhaka Leagues have been their only source of income. The cricketers however heaved a sigh of relief when a registration of different sort took place at the Bangladesh National Stadium.

BEXIMCO led the signings roping 14 cricketers. Meanwhile, their big catch was Test cricket's youngest centurion on debut Mohammad Ashraful. Former left-arm national seamer Morshed Ali Khan is likely to lead the team that

also features all-rounder Neeyamur Rashid, Sajjad Ahmed Shipon, batsman Azam Iqbal, Parvez Ahmed, under-19 left-arm spinner Nadif Chowdhury and veteran off-spinner Masudur Rahman Mukul.

Bangladesh Biman, a popular name in domestic cricket, also enjoyed a good shopping. National all-rounder Mushfiqur Rahman was the lone player bracketed in the 10-men elite pool who signed for the national flag carrier. Biman also signed up national discard Sanwar Hossain, former national opener Jahangir Alam, dashing right-hander Rashedul Haque, experienced left-arm paceman Anisur Rahman, middle-order batsman Hasanuzzaman, wicketkeeper Sajjad Kadir, right-arm seamer Aminul Islam Bhola and young spinner Ilias Sunny.

Araf Apparels also appeared at the BNS to sign up experienced batsman Halim Shah, talented right-hander Anisur Rahman Sanchay, spinner Arafat Sunny, discarded national opener Ehsanul Haque, off-spinner Jamaluddin Babu, south-paw Mustadir Litu and under-19 pacers Nazmul Haque and Rubaiyat Haque.

Gazi Tank signed nine cricketers with Murad Khan being the only notable name on the list.

Veteran cricketer Minhajul Abedin Nannu, still sought by many despite nearing the end of his career, remains the mystery man as his name is being linked to more than one team. The most successful batsman in the history of domestic cricket is expected to play for either Ispahani or Acme Laboratories with the latter also gunning to win the hearts of national captain Bashar and opener Hannan Sarker.

Mohammed Rafique, voted the sports personality of the year 2003 by journalists recently, is set to lead the mobile company Aktel.

GrameenPhone were yet to make their presence felt last night, but the country's largest cellular operator is expected to appear with two big names Alok Kapali and former national captain Khaled Mahmud at the BNS today, the final day of the signings.

The Corporate League will commence on April 20.

# It doesn't bother cricket

REUTERS, Rawalpindi



Virender Sehwag cracked an Indian record 309 and new comer Umar Gul produced an unlikely golden

spell off five for 31. Inzamamul Haq struck a mastery century and Sachin Tendulkar was left stranded on 194 by a surprising declaration.

India's historic Test tour of Pakistan, tied 1-1 with the ongoing decider looking certain to produce a result, has not been short on excitement.

But the stands have still been deserted.

The reason? All of the above.

India's first full series in Pakistan in over 14 years, accompanied by strong political overtones, has produced such superlative cricket that the general consensus in Pakistan is that it is being played to a script.

There is no tangible evidence to prove the charge, nor is there any indication that it might be true.

But it is the major reason for Pakistanis, who normally wear their

hearts on their sleeves during encounters with India, staying away from the grounds in the Test series.

The "fixing" allegations, which players from both sides have taken exception to, were first made by former captain Rashid Latif in a television interview during India's 3-2 one-day series win in five thrilling encounters.

Though the Pakistan board condemned his comment and denied the charge, it seems to have struck a chord with the public.

In Multan, where India won the first Test following Sehwag's heroics, a senior bureaucrat openly highlighted the impact of the charge on the low turnout at the stadium.

"One big reason for people not coming for the match is because there is a feeling among the people that the matches are fixed," Mohammad Ejaz Chaudhary, Multan's district coordination officer, told reporters.

"Not for money, but in order to build goodwill among the countries,"

People repeated the sentiment across the country, right from Karachi carpet-seller Shakeel Ahmed to Lahore businessman Junaid Mian to Rawalpindi book-seller Abdul Shakil.

India and Pakistan have fought three wars against each other since

1947 and were close to a fourth conflict two years ago.

Relations have thawed over the last year and the current tour is seen as the biggest symbol of the stuttering peace process between the nuclear-armed neighbours.

"The two countries have already decided the result of the matches to make each other happy. India won the one-day series and I'll be surprised if Pakistan don't win the Tests," said Multan taxi driver Abdul Karim.

The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) says a bigger reason for the crowds staying away is that the more popular one-dayers were played before the Tests.

"When India insisted on playing the one-day internationals before the Test series, we were always apprehensive it would reduce interest in the Tests," the board's chief executive Rameez Raja said.

After packed stadiums for the one-day series, only a few thousand turned up for the Multan Test and there were sometimes only a few hundred at Lahore.

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PHOTO: AFP

TAKE THAT: Double-centurion Rahul Dravid of India pulls one for four on way to scoring a career-best 270 on the third day of the third and final Test against Pakistan in Rawalpindi yesterday.

# Inzy puts on a brave face

REUTERS/AFP, Rawalpindi



Pakistan captain Inzamamul Haq is backing himself and his side to bat out the final two days and save the deciding third Test against India.

The hosts, reeling on 49 for two after the third day, still need 327 to avoid an innings defeat with India pushing for a historic Test series win in Pakistan.

Rahul Dravid led the Indian surge on Thursday, scoring a career-best 270 in a total of 600.

"I'm backing myself to show the lead to the other batsmen," Inzamam told Reuters. "It's going to be hard work, but we have to fight to save this match."

Inzamam, playing his 94th Test, will need an innings similar to his Test-best 329 against New Zealand at Lahore two years ago if Pakistan are to save the series.

"There is nothing much wrong with the pitch, though there has been some wear and tear and the bounce is variable. But if we get a long partnership, things can go our way," he said.

There was more bad news for Pakistan, however, with middle-order batsman Asim Kamal struggling to shrug off an elbow injury.

Kamal was hit on his right elbow by a ferocious pull from Indian captain Sourav Ganguly on Wednesday. X-rays have ruled out any major damage but he has been suffering from acute pain.

"We are trying to motivate him to bat tomorrow, if required," Inzamam said.

## SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at stumps on the third day of the third and final cricket Test between Pakistan and India at the Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium on Thursday:

PAKISTAN: First innings 224 (Sami 49; Balaji 4-63)  
INDIA: First innings (overnight 342-4)

Sehwag c Hameed b Akhtar	0
Patel c Akmal b Akbar	69
Dravid b Farhat	270
Tendulkar c Akmal b Akhtar	1

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## INDIAN INDIVIDUAL HIGHS

REUTERS, Rawalpindi

Highest scores by Indian players in Tests after Rahul Dravid scored 270, the third highest score, in the third Test against Pakistan on Thursday (\* denotes not out):

Runs	Player	Opponent	Year	Venue
309	Virender Sehwag	Pakistan	2004	Multan
281	Venkatasai Laxman	Australia	2000-2001	Calcutta
270	Rahul Dravid	Pakistan	2004	Rawalpindi
241*	Sachin Tendulkar	Australia	2003-04	Sydney
236*	Sunil Gavaskar	West Indies	1983-84	Madras
233	Rahul Dravid	Australia	2003-04	Adelaide
231	Vinoo Mankad	New Zealand	1955-56	Madras
227	Vinod Kambli	Zimbabwe	1992-93	New Delhi
224	Vinoo Mankad	England	1992-93	Bombay
223	Vinoo Mankad	New Zealand	1955-56	Bombay

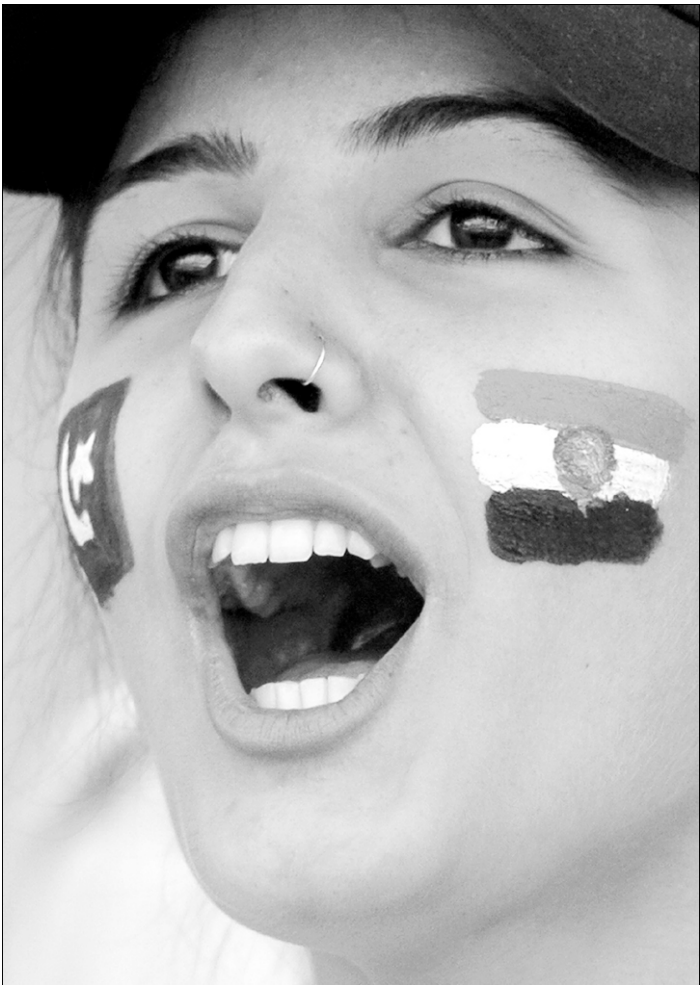
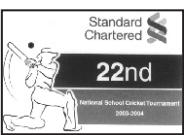


PHOTO: AFP

A Pakistani student, with her cheeks painted in the national colours of India and Pakistan, enjoys her time at the Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium yesterday.

# Kalindi dethrone BKSP

SPORTS REPORTER



Kalindi Parzowar High School crowned themselves the new national cricket champions ending the three-year reign of mighty Bangladesh Krira Shiksha Protish-than (BKSP) yesterday.

The Keraniganj outfit won the surprisingly lop-sided final of the Standard Chartered bank 22nd National School Cricket Championship at the Bangabandhu National Stadium by five wickets.

BKSP, who lifted the title three years in a row and won the final between the two sides last year, lost the two-day battle against the Kalindi boys at the half-way mark when they were bundled out for 110 in 62.1 overs on Wednesday.

Ahmed Hanif shaped the five-wicket victory with four wickets. The boys of the lone sports institute of the country never looked comfortable after they decided to bat. They

fell into early trouble with Rahmatullah Mithu taking two early wickets and effecting a run out. BKSP never recovered from 40-3 and despite a fine 41 by number six Jupiter Ghosh.

Hanif, who was used as the sixth bowler, finished his six overs with 4-30 and was adjudged man-of-the-final.

Kalindi rattled up 42 runs in 11 overs before both their openers departed with the addition of one run. One-down Imran Hossain then propelled his side to 112-5 in 41.4 overs scoring an unbeaten 37 that featured seven boundaries. Mohammed Rana, who shared 47 runs with Imran for the third wicket, contributed 20.

Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Barrister Moudud Ahmed distributed the prizes among the winners after the final.

## SCORES IN BRIEF

BKSP: 110 all out in 62.1 overs (Hussain 10, Mahmudul 22, Jupiter 41; Rahmatullah 2-17, Hanif 4-30).

KALINDI PARZOWAR SCHOOL: 112-5 in 41.4 overs (Masud 22,

Imran 37 not out, Rana 21, extras 20; Nazmul 3-26, Mahmudul 2-30).

ROLL OF HONOUR	
Year	Champions
1982-83	Residential Model
1983-84	Willes Little Flower
1984-85	Willes Little Flower
1985-86	Willes Little Flower
1986-87	West End
1987-88	Narayanganj High School
1988-89	Mukul Niketan
1989-90	Not held
1990-91	Not held
1991-92	Cornilla Zilla School
1992-93	Narayanganj High School
1993-94	Narayanganj High School
1994-95	Bindu Basini
1995-96	Scholastica
1996-97	Scholastica
1997-98	Not held
1998-99	Bindu Basini
1999-2000	Mymensingh Zilla School
2000-01	BKSP
2001-02	BKSP
2002-03	BKSP
2003-04	Kalindi Parzowar School



PHOTO: COURTESY

Minister for Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Barrister Moudud Ahmed hands over the trophy to the captain of Kalindi High School after they won the Standard Chartered 22nd School Cricket Tournament defeating BKSP at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday. Tournament committee chairman Shah Nurul Kabir Shaheen (2nd from L) and CEO of Standard Chartered bank David Fletcher (3rd from R) are also seen.



AFP, St John's

Consistent batting from the top order led by captain Michael Vaughan helped England escape with a draw in the fourth and final Test against West Indies on Wednesday.

Vaughan drove Pedro Collins through wide mid-off for four to reach the landmark and led England, trailing West Indies on first innings by 466, to 422 for five in their second innings before West Indies captain Brian Lara recognised it was pointless to continue.

There were also half-centuries from Marcus Trescothick, Mark Butcher and Nasser Hussain as England wrapped up a memorable

3-0 Test series victory, their first on Caribbean soil for 36 years.

The had already retained the Wisden Trophy, symbol of supremacy between the two teams, after crushing wins at Kingston, Port of Spain and Bridgetown.

With West Indies hunting a consolation win to end a forgettable series in which they were completely outplayed, Vaughan batted circumspectly for nearly six hours to smash 20 boundaries from 247 balls and gained essential support from the rest of the top order.

"It was a tough game for us to draw after the start they got to the match by scoring 751 for five declared," said Vaughan.

"I was a little surprised they called it off so early, but their bowlers were clearly tired. They had 2-1/2 days in the field and we played in a

good game of cricket.

"It was great the way the West Indies team came back in this match. They were under enormous pressure and everyone was talking about a whitewash and they returned in this match and played a very good game of cricket."

Vaughan noted that though he expected a tough series, it ended in great satisfaction for his side.

"It was going to be decided by the team that came through the tough situations," he said.

"There is not much between the two sides and, in the first three matches, we just seem to get through all the tough periods and when we were on top we were able to nail the advantage home."

"Every individual in the team has played their part and it has been one big team effort both on and off the

field. There are a lot of players who will be around for a long time in this team. We are a long way off from being the finished article, but we are moving forward quite nicely."

England continued from their overnight position of 145 without loss and saw Marcus Trescothick depart in the first hour, caught at cover off Fidel Edwards driving loosely at a slower delivery, for 88 from 188 balls in four hours with 10 fours.

England were 182 for one and Vaughan and Mark Butcher took them to lunch on 241 for one.

After the interval, the two batsmen continued to plunder the flagging West Indies attack emasculated by the slow Antigua Recreation Ground pitch.

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