



## Did U Know?

Belgian Filip Dewulf, a semifinalist in 1997, is the most successful qualifier in the French Open history. The most successful French qualifier in the tournament Roland Garros is Thierry Champion, who reached the quarterfinals in 1990.



## Talk Turkey



## Chris Cairns

(Star New Zealand cricketer)  
*"For me the timing is right. It's about balancing my life, pure and simple. In my life now I have business interests, I still have a love for the game, but most importantly I have a young family and having all of those things in my life means it's basically too hard to juggle. So Test cricket is the one I've foregone to bring a balance in my life."*

## While revealing the reason behind his decision to quit Test cricket.



## What to Watch

- ESPN**  
Sportscentre  
Sports News  
Live at 8.30 pm
- STAR Sports**  
England vs New Zealand  
Third Test, Day Two  
Live at 3.30 pm
- TEN Sports**  
ICC Cricket World  
Repeat at 4 pm  
Legends  
At 6.30 pm

**Star WHIZZ KID COMPETITION 212**  
 Tick the correct answers, post to  
**The Daily Star**  
 Win attractive prizes  
**Competition closes at 8 pm**  
 June 11, 2004 and draw

1. Who won the GP Corporate Cricket League Plate title?	Acme	Isophani	Gazi
2. Who lifted the United Insurance IM chess crown?	Refaat	Niaz	Zia
3. What was result of the Bangladesh-West Indies ODI series?	2-1	2-0	3-0
4. Who will host the 2010 FIFA			
Name .....			
Class .....	Roll No. ....		
School Address .....			
Phone: (If any) .....			

## Div II kabadi

**BSS, Dhaka**  
 Sat Rowza Nabeen Sangha and Shaheed Muzaffar Hossain Smriti Sangsad got off to solid starts in the Second Division Kabadi League yesterday.  
 Nabeen Sangha defeated Manda Sangsad 58-45 in the opening match at the Outer Stadium court. The winners led the first half 27-23.  
 Muzaffar Smriti came from a first half deficit of 27-24 to beat Star Sporting Club 65-45 in the day's other match.

# Keeping for future

## Cricket

### SPORTS REPORTER

Wicketkeeping nowadays is no longer just standing behind the stumps and waiting to take anything that beats the batsman or play the role of a cheerleader.

It is probably the most demanding position in a cricket team. The stumper will only have to take anything that comes his way but his captain also expects him to contribute with the bat if he is to keep his place.

Combining batting with the art of keeping has led to the decline of skilled glovemen in international cricket.

For Bangladesh, the newest member of the Test cricket club, the problem is even bigger. Khaled Mashud is the lone man doing the job over a decade and still nobody has stepped up to challenge the doughty Rajshahi cricketer.

There were a few names that came and went. It was only recently the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) realised that they desperately need somebody to fit into the 32-year-old's gloves.

So it was of little surprise they turned to an Australian, Andrew Self, for help.

And the Queenslander was quick to suggest there was one who could be a future Bangladesh wicket-keeper.

"Some of them were very good

but only Mushfiqur Rahman can put pressure on Mashud. He is skilled and his performance was very high. Two or three years may be and he would be ready for the Test level," said the 32-year-old Queenslander who began his coaching career at 21.

He made the observation after conducting a six-day camp at the BKSP in Savar that featured three Under-17 players and four from the super league unit.

Talking to The Daily Star Sport at the BCB's Gulshan office yesterday, Self told that he has found the 'second best' wicketkeeper in the country and two more potential candidates.

Mushfiq, who hails from Bogra, is a BKSP student and captained Bangladesh Under-15 team in the West Bengal tour recently.

"There are a couple with good standard, but I think they would need four or five years to make it to the top level."

Ashiqur Rahman and Sagir Hossain Pavel were the others who impressed Self, who concentrated mostly on developing skill, catching and positioning in the short-term camp. He also stressed on the importance of batting, which has become a criteria for selection.

"It is a very demanding job. A player needs stamina, a lot of strength in his legs, he has to concentrate on every ball. They have to be strong and fit so that it does not effect the mental side of it. When they are not strong and fit, the mental thing comes into play," Self

added.

"They also have to be vocal but I told them when to talk and when not to. They have to learn to switch off between balls.

Self admitted that the standard of wicketkeeping in the world is falling. Most of the teams except Australia have changed them now and again.

"But I think after Adam Gilchrist showed his prowess with the bat, most of the teams are trying to get a copy of him. That's why we have seen batsmen who can keep or keepers who can bat instead of taking a specialist keeper.

"I think Australia is lucky to have an all-rounder like Gilchrist to replace Ian Healy. To me he is the best wicketkeeper-batsman but Wade Seccombe of Queensland is a better wicketkeeper than him. He just fell behind because of his batting.

"It is proven that if wicketkeepers can't bat, they have no chance. I have told this to the boys here. It is a part of the game and one should not feel any extra pressure for this.

Self, who did not see the seven boys batting much in the six days, said Mushfiq is pretty good with the willow although Pavel seems to be the best of the bunch with the bat.

"Mushfiq is only 15 or 16. He has a lot of time to work on it."

Andrew Self will leave Dhaka on Sunday.

# Fleming leads from front

## Cricket

### AFP, Nottingham

New Zealand captain Stephen Fleming's unbeaten 107 guided his side to the strong position of 196 for one at tea on the first day of the third Test against England at Trent Bridge here Thursday.

Scott Styris was 12 not out after New Zealand lost obdurate opener Mark Richardson for 73.

The Kiwis started the second session well-placed at 82 for no wicket with Richardson 36 not out and Fleming, who won the toss, unbeaten on 43.

It did not take long for both left-handers to reach their half-centuries.

Fleming got their with a square-driven four off Matthew Hoggard.

Next delivery a single brought a hundred opening partnership in 199 balls.

Richardson, dropped on five by Andrew Strauss, went past fifty for the third time in the series with a

leg-glanced boundary off Yorkshire seamer Hoggard.

England spearhead Stephen Harmison, who had caused Richardson problems with his extra pace and bounce earlier in the day, thought he had the opener lbw for 54 with a full-length ball that hit the batsman's back leg.

But Simon Taufel, one of two Australian umpires standing in this match along with Daryl Harper, rejected the appeal with New Zealand on 119.

Andrew Flintoff had a confident lbw shout against Fleming, on 64, but the batsman playing no stroke but Taufel turned him down with New Zealand on 126.

Fleming then on-drove left-arm spinner Ashley Giles for four and lofted him for six off successive balls to bring up New Zealand's 150.

England captain Michael Vaughan, an occasional off-spinner, brought himself on in a bid to break the partnership.

But it was as a fielder that Vaughan ended the stand when Richardson chipped a catch

straight to him at short mid-on off Giles.

It was an unusually soft dismissal for the obdurate Richardson who had now batted for over 20 hours in the series.

On Thursday he faced 169 balls with 11 fours, putting on 163 for the first wicket with Fleming.

But his captain kept going and reached his seventh Test hundred in style by turning Martin Saggars off his legs for six.

Fleming, who faced 161 balls with two sixes and 12 fours, celebrated by punching the air having come close to a century with 97 in the second Test.

England missed a chance for an early breakthrough when short leg Strauss failed to hold on to a right-handed chance offered by Richardson off Harmison when New Zealand were 11 without loss.

Richardson had moved on to 16 when England were convinced they had him caught behind by wicket-keeper Gairnt Jones off Hoggard.

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# NFL to have new format

## SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) will introduce a new format for the final phase of the fourth National Football League (NFL).

For the first time, 12 teams will be playing in the first phase of the finals.

The 12 teams will be split into two groups with three top teams from each group making it to the super league.

In the super league, the three Group A teams will not play among themselves but will face the three Group B teams. Each team will carry over points they earned against their fellow super league teams in the previous phase.

The top four teams will be playing in the semifinals with the leaders facing the fourth.

The qualifying rounds start at five zones on June 25 and the services zone qualifiers begin on June 27 in Dhaka. The six qualifying spots for the finals will be decided by July 3.

# ZCU postpones Test matches till year end

## AFP, London

Strife-torn Zimbabwe have pulled out of all Test cricket for the rest of the 2004 season, the International Cricket Council (ICC) said on Thursday.

The announcement came after a meeting between Zimbabwe Cricket Union (ZCU) officials and representatives of the game's governing body in Dubai.

Zimbabwe only had four Tests scheduled in the remainder of 2004, two in Pakistan in October and two at home to England in November.

However, the decision does not cover one-day internationals and they will still go-ahead meaning that England's ongoing dithering over whether or not to tour will also continue.

The decision comes after 15 senior Zimbabwe players went on strike following the sacking of the captain Heath Streak who had objected to the selection policies of the ZCU which he claimed were compromising the success of the national team.

Australia's two-Test series in Zimbabwe was cancelled last month because of the weakness of the opposition although the world champions did play three one-dayers.

"Today's meeting demonstrates the depth of concern in the international cricket community over the impact the dispute in Zimbabwe is having on the game," said ICC president Ehsan Mani.

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# Streak makes county mark

## AFP, London

Former Zimbabwe captain Heath Streak enjoyed a stunning debut for Warwickshire when he took seven wickets on the opening day of the English County Championship match against Northamptonshire at Edgbaston.

Streak, out of cricket since being sacked by the Zimbabwe Cricket Union in April, finished with seven for 80 although the home side were frustrated by tailender Ben Phillips, who hit 90 to help the visitors post 329.

Phillips hit 17 fours and two sixes in his 117-ball knock, lifting a side that at one point were 185 for seven on Wednesday.

Warwickshire were 13 without loss at the close.

# Rating Chess' five leaders

## SPORTS REPORTER

Five players were sharing the lead in the Open FIDE Rating Chess tournament with maximum four points on completion of the fourth round at the Chess Federation hall room yesterday.

Among them was International Master Abdullah Al Rakib who beat Mohammad Javed. Besides, Abu Sufian Shakil, Saifuddin Lavlu, Mahtabuddin Ahmed Robin and Imran Ali Elin also had four points.

In other fourth round games, Shakil beat Uten, Robin beat Nasir, Lavlu beat Naser, Elin beat Debaraj and Pallab beat Eva.

# G'bandha cricket

## OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha

Mohammedan Sporting Club lifted the Second Division Cricket League title with a five-wicket win over Champak Sporting Club at the local stadium here yesterday.

Mohammedan's Tanu was adjudged best bowler of the meet with 15 wickets and Sujun the best batsman with an aggregate of 127 runs. Their teammate Arif became the best all-rounder.



A worker cleans the stands of Dragao Stadium in Porto on Wednesday, three days before it hosts the opening ceremony of the Euro 2004. PHOTO: AFP

# Made for each other



## REUTERS, Paris

France and England renew their old rivalry on Sunday at Euro 2004, with national pride at stake as well as their countries' soccer fortunes.

"This is more than just an ordinary match. This is the French against the English, the 'frogs' against the 'rosbifs', two countries who love to hate each other," said sports-mad Frenchman Guillaume Porcheron.

"French-bashing and English-hating is almost a national sport in itself," he said during a recent argument over dinner with English friends.

"In the end, I think it's because we actually rather admire each other."

The English and French loathe relationship is alive and kicking on the sports field.

Pledges of unity made by the countries' leaders in Normandy

last weekend on the 60th anniversary of the D-Day landings will be forgotten on Sunday -- for 90 minutes, at least.

There are plenty of sporting scores to settle when the two sides take the field for the opening Group B match in Lisbon.

English sport fans are hungry to avenge France's 24-21 victory in this year's Six Nations rugby championship, while the French want to make up for their disappointment at the Roland Garros tennis tournament last week.

Local heroine Amelie Mauresmo surrendered meekly in the quarterfinals after raising home hopes with her powerful performances in earlier rounds. Tim Henman rubbed salt in the wounds by unexpectedly reaching the semi-finals with a string of lion-hearted performances.

Many French people will recall another precedent almost exactly 22 years ago, when England's Bryan Robson scored after only 27 seconds to set his team up for a 3-1 victory over France in their opening group match at the 1982 World Cup.

"There's always a bit of a needle when France play England at soccer, just like when we play them at rugby," said Lucien, a waiter serving lunch in a Paris restaurant.

Asked how he would feel if France lost, he said: "We won't lose. That's not possible"

Not every Frenchman would take defeat lightly. The national team's successes are an immense source of pride and any defeat on such an important stage saps morale -- all the more so if it is at the hands of the old enemy.

Defeat would trigger bitter memories of France's dismal World Cup campaign in 2002 when the defending champions went out in the group stage without scoring a goal. It would also set off a lot of soul-searching.

French expectations are mixed with trepidation.

"We have a great team but you can't forget what happened two years ago. That's my big fear -- that we'll do the same thing again," said Luc Couturier, a 51-year-old accountant.

The players are also aware of the

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# Lara eager to keep job

## Cricket

### BBC ONLINE, undated

Brian Lara has on Wednesday confirmed he wants to keep the West Indies captaincy for the tour to England.

Last week he threatened to quit the job if they did not beat Bangladesh in the Jamaica Test, but his innings of 120 helped them earn an innings win.

"It doesn't matter what I achieve on the field personally," he said.

"I've dedicated the last few years of my career to ensuring we get to some sort of respectability in terms of the international Test cricket rankings."

The win over Bangladesh provided some consolation for West Indies after the disappointment of losing 3-0 to England, a result they

are eager to avenge on their forthcoming tour.

Writing in the Trinidad Guardian, Lara said he remained concerned, however, about the physical toll being taken on some of his younger players because of the amount of cricket being played.

Pace bowler Fidel Edwards has been forced to pull out of the triangular one-day series against England and New Zealand which launches their tour because of a hamstring strain.

"Fidel Edwards continuously finds himself on the physio table, and now has been sidelined at least five times in his brief career," said Lara.

"We are asking kids to do a big man's job."

"To ask some 20 and 21-year-olds to play back to back Test matches is always going to take something out of them."

"Then to ask them to play one-day cricket is a lot of pressure.

"I feel we should separate them, make sure we get them through and make sure they are always fit for the matches we have ahead."

Lara acknowledged his threat to resign the captaincy which he took on for the second time in March last year was born of frustration.

"On occasion against England we played very poor cricket. "I think the guys bowled well but we came up with another series loss in the West Indies, something we seem to be getting accustomed to -- so I was really disappointed in that."

"Then we drew the first Test with Bangladesh (in St Lucia) and I thought we could have done a lot better," he explained.

West Indies will travel to Ireland for two one-day games next Wednesday and Thursday, prior to arriving in England.

Their opening NatWest Series game against New Zealand at Edgbaston takes place on 26 June.



Abdullah Al Rakib and Mohammed Javed (L) ponder over their next moves during a fourth round game of the Open FIDE Rating Chess tournament at the BCF hall room yesterday. PHOTO: STAR

# Taylor cautions ICC

## Cricket

### AFP, Sydney

Former Australian Test off-spinner Peter Taylor has warned the world cricket body to rebuff a Sri Lankan appeal for rule changes allowing Muttiah Muralitharan to bowl his outlawed 'doosra' delivery.

Sri Lanka Cricket has asked the International Cricket Council (ICC) to change laws and increase the tolerance limit for the straightening of bent-arm deliveries to 15 degrees.

Taylor sees such a change as allowing the world record-taking spinner to bowl his controversial off-spinning wrong'un that was recently tested at 14 degrees before he reduced it to 10 degrees under remediation at the University of Western Australia.

bloke who's very marginal keep playing. Under the old rule he wouldn't be playing."

The current tolerance limit for spinners is set at five degrees, while it is 7.5 for medium-pacers and 10 for pacemen and is tested by biomechanics experts.

Sri Lankan cricket president Mohan de Silva said his board had the support of six other countries in calling for a review of the tolerance levels.

"We are not sure there should be one limit for a pace bowler and another for a spinner," he said.

"A pace bowler can deliver a slow bowl and a spinner can deliver a fast bowl."

Taylor, although not wanting to criticise Murali, whose action he considers illegal, said it was crucial for the game's future that law-makers took a hard-line, cut-and-dried stance.

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# BCCI, UCB look for a way out

## REUTERS, Durban

Indian cricket chief Jagmohan Dalmiya and United Cricket Board (UCB) of South Africa president Ray Mali meet in Dubai on Thursday in an effort to finalise the schedule for South Africa's tour in November.

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has said they wanted South Africa to play two Tests on the tour, which was rejected by the UCB, who wants to play just one-day internationals because of time constraints.

South Africa's first Test match against England begins on December 17.

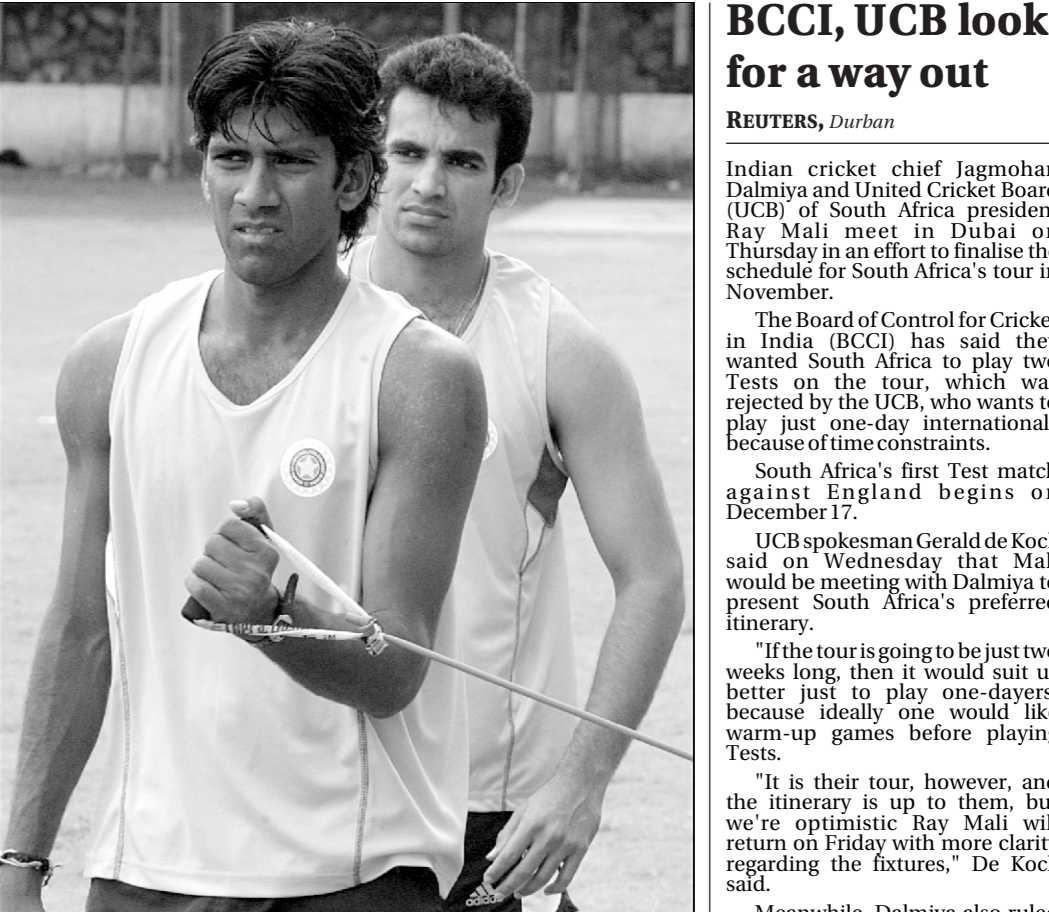
UCB spokesman Gerald de Kock said on Wednesday that Mali would be meeting with Dalmiya to present South Africa's preferred itinerary.

"If the tour is going to be just two weeks long, then it would suit us better just to play one-dayers, because ideally one would like warm-up games before playing Tests."

"It is their tour, however, and the itinerary is up to them, but we're optimistic Ray Mali will return on Friday with more clarity regarding the fixtures," De Kock said.

Meanwhile, Dalmiya also ruled out the chance of a one-day series with Pakistan later this year, and said

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Indian seamers Laxmipaty Balaji (L) and Zaheer Khan exercise in a pace bowler's fitness camp at the National Cricket Academy in Bangalore yesterday. PHOTO: AFP