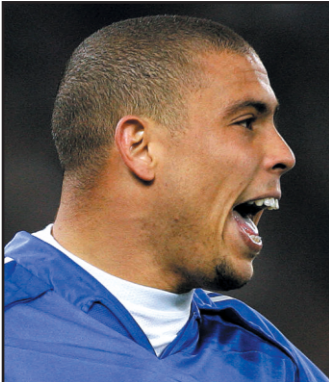




Did U Know?

Boris Becker became Wimbledon's youngest champion at the age of 17 in 1985.



Ronaldo

(Real Madrid superstar)
"It was a piece of stupidity on my part. I got annoyed because Tacchinardi grabbed me round the neck and I kicked out at him -- I shouldn't have done it."
After being red carded for kicking Juventus defender Alessio Tacchinardi.



DD Sports & TEN Sports

India vs Pakistan
First Test, Day Five
Live at 10:00 am
ESPN
FA Cup
Bolton Wanderers vs Arsenal
Live at 6:10 pm
Southampton vs Man United
Live at 11:10 pm
New Zealand vs Australia
First Test, Day Four
Live at 3:30 am (Sunday)
STAR Sports
South Africa vs Zimbabwe
Second Test, Day Two
Live at 2:30 pm
Primera Liga
Barcelona vs Bilbao
Same Day Delay at 3:00 am (Sunday)



Ispahani Sixth Nat'l Cricket League
(Four-day, Day One)
Rajshahi vs Barisal (RDSCS)
Khulna vs Sylhet (KDCCS)
Chittagong vs Dhaka (CDSCS)

MSC cricket

SPORTS REPORTER
Anwar slammed 131 as Scholars School and College earned a comfortable six-wicket victory over Enam Children High School in the Mohammedan Dhaka Metropolitan Inter-school Cricket Tournament at the Wapda ground yesterday.
Enam Children High School were all out for 199 while the Scholars reached their target losing four wickets.
In the day's other match, Kurmitola High School (184) managed a 12-run victory against Sher-e-Bangla Nagar High School (172) at the COD ground.

Zimbabwe 269 all out

SPORTS REPORTER
Heath Streak smashed 85 to help Zimbabwe reach 269 before being booked on the opening day of their first innings in the second Test against South Africa at Centurion yesterday.
The former Zimbabwe captain added 76 runs with Andy Blignaut (52) and 73 with Graeme Cremer (12) for the eighth and ninth wickets respectively after they had crashed to 115-7.
At stumps, South Africa were 13 without loss.

It's India's for taking

AFP, Mohali
TVS CUP
INDIA VS PAKISTAN 2005
Fast bowler Laxmipathy Balaji and spinner Anil Kumble shared five wickets as India exposed Pakistan's batting limitations to move closer to winning the opening Test here on Friday.
Pakistan had few in-form batsmen against a full-strength Indian attack as they reached 257-6 at stumps on the fourth day after trailing by 204 runs.
Skipper Inzamamul Haq (86), Yousef Youhana (68) and Asim Kamal (48) offered stiff resistance, but their efforts were still not good enough to steer their team to safety.
India look set to wrap up the match on the fifth and final day on Saturday for a 1-0 lead in the three-Test series as Pakistan are just 53 runs ahead with four wickets in hand.
All-rounder Abdul Razzaq was batting on 22 with Kamran Akmal (nine).
Balaji, out of Test cricket for nearly a year due to an abdomen injury, made an impressive comeback, finishing with 3-67 following his maiden five-wicket haul in the first innings.
Veteran leg-spinner Kumble claimed the prize wickets of

Inzamam and Youhana just when it looked the Pakistani batsmen would pull their team out of trouble.
Kumble also came close to getting the wicket of Kamal, who was dropped on zero and two by Rahul Dravid at lone slip. Kamal then smashed Kumble for four successive fours before becoming Balaji's third victim.
India were earlier all out for 516 in their first innings in reply to Pakistan's 312.
Leg-spinner Danish Kaneria was the most impressive Pakistani bowler as he finished with 6-150, his morning spell reading 6.4-1-29-4.
Inzamam led from the front, following his solid 57 in the first innings with a fluent half-century in the second to help his team avoid the humiliation of an innings defeat. Pakistan were tottering at 10-3 in 4.1 overs at one stage.
Pakistan were in a spot after their top order crumbled for the second successive time in the match as three wickets fell early.
Pakistan's batting problems stemmed from their fragile top order, with Salman Butt, Taufeeq Umar and Younis Khan falling to reach double-figures.
Younis was bowled shouldering arms in Balaji's second over and Butt was caught behind ducking into an Irfan Pathan bouncer, the ball hitting the bottom of the bat on way to wicketkeeper Dinesh Karthik.
Inzamam prevented an innings defeat by adding 139 for the fourth wicket with Youhana. He hit one six and 10 fours and looked set for a hundred.
The Pakistani captain had been looking dangerous when he was trapped leg-before by Kumble in the penultimate over before tea.
Kumble continued to keep pressure with his bounce and variations, dismissing Youhana after the break to make sure India did not have to chase a big target on the final day.
Youhana struck 12 fours in his 22nd Test half-century before running out of luck, the ball hitting the bat and then pad before rolling on to the stumps.
India added 69 to their overnight total of 447-6, with Venkatsai Laxman scoring 58 for his 21st Test half-century and Balaji a 36-ball 31.
Kaneria took all the four Indian wickets to fall in the morning to complete his ninth haul of five or more scalps in a Test innings.
SCOREBOARD
Scoreboard at stumps on the fourth day of the opening Test between India and Pakistan at Mohali on Friday:
PAKISTAN: First innings 312 (Kamal 91, Inzamam 57; Balaji 5-76)

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RIVALRY MEANS NOTHING TO THEM: Two tiny tots, presumably an Indian and a Pakistani, enjoying themselves on Day Four of the first Test between India and Pakistan at Mohali yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

Unchanged India

AFP, Mohali
India on Friday kept faith in the same 14-man team taking part in the first Test against Pakistan here for the second match starting at the Eden Gardens in Kolkata on Wednesday.
The hosts are firm favourites to take a 1-0 lead in the three-match series as Pakistan start the fifth and final day's play on Saturday with a meagre lead of 53 runs with only four wickets in hand.
Pakistan are slated to play three Tests and six one-day internationals on their first tour of India since 1999.
India's 14-man squad for second Test:
Sourav Ganguly (captain), Rahul Dravid, Virender Sehwag, Gautam Gambhir, Sachin Tendulkar, Venkatsai Laxman, Yuvraj Singh, Dinesh Karthik (wicketkeeper), Zaheer Khan, Irfan Pathan, Ashish Nehra, Laxmipathy Balaji, Anil Kumble, Harbhajan Singh.

Kolkata Test tickets going slowly

AFP, Kolkata
The second cricket Test between arch-rivals India and Pakistan next week has failed to enthrall fans in this otherwise sports-crazy city due to the ongoing school and college exams and hot weather.
Barely 5,000 of the 40,000 tickets up for sale for the general public were sold in the first two days at the 90,000-capacity Eden Gardens where the Test starts Wednesday, the Cricket Association of Bengal said.
"It's not normal for Kolkata," said an official from the association, which is hosting the event.
"Tickets are usually sold out in hours. Probably the examinations, hot weather and an overdose of international cricket has something to do with it," he said.
The Test will be the third international cricket match in the city in four months after the one-day international against Pakistan on November 13 and the Test against South Africa two weeks later.



SHOULD'VE GOT A BIG ONE! Pakistan captain Inzamamul Haq is dejected after getting out on the fourth day of the first Test against India yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

Musharraf accepts cricket invitation

AFP, Islamabad
Pakistan President Pervez Musharraf has accepted an invitation from Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh to attend a match in the current cricket series between the two countries, Pakistan's foreign office said Friday.
It had not yet been decided which match Musharraf would attend during the ongoing series of three Tests and six one-day internationals which runs until April 17, foreign office spokesman Jalil Abbas Jilani told AFP.
"We are looking at the schedule of the president," Jilani said, adding that the matter "depends on the convenience of the president."
Pakistan's Information Minister Sheikh Rashid said New Delhi's ambassador to Islamabad had visited the foreign office on Thursday to formally extend the invitation on behalf of the Indian prime minister.
Diplomatic channels were reviewing Musharraf's programme in the light of the invitation and a "final decision" on the exact timing of the president's visit would be made in due course, Rashid told state media.
According to media reports Musharraf may visit Kolkata for the second Test starting from March 16.
Singh said in a statement to parliament on Thursday that he had "decided to invite President Musharraf to come to India and watch a cricket match" adding that he hoped the general and his family
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Final A 1-dayer today

SPORTS REPORTER
The series deciding fifth and final one-day match between Bangladesh A and Zimbabwe A will be held today.
The second string national side twice came from behind against their southern African hosts to level the series 2-2, making the last match a virtual final.
The visitors have whitewashed Zimbabwe A 3-0 in the Test series earlier.

Azhar breaks nat'l discus record

BDNEWS, Chittagong
Azharul Islam of Bangladesh Army set a new national record in the discus throw event by throwing 44.04 metres in the PHP 30th National Athletics Championships at the MA Aziz Stadium yesterday.
He broke the previous mark held by Saidur Rahman of Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation (BJMC). Saidur did it 1981 with a throw of 44 metres.
On the second day of the three-day meet 21 events were decided.
Bangladesh Army topped the medals table claiming 12 gold medals. BJMC remained second with nine gold medals. BKSP was in third position with one gold and six silver medals.
Bangladesh Navy also grabbed one gold but are just behind BKSP as it earned less silver medals.
In the men's marathon event Hanipur Rahman of Bangladesh Army grabbed the gold medal finishing the race in 2 hours, 45 minutes and 36 seconds. Faruk Mia and Golam Moulana of the same team claimed the silver and bronze respectively.
Nazmun Nahar Beauty of BJMC grabbed three gold medals in the 200 and 400 metres and 4 x 100 relay.
Abdullah Kafi Sarkar of Bangladesh Army claimed two gold medals in 5,000 and 10,000 metres.

Dhaka, Rajshahi win, Khulna slip up



SPORTS REPORTER
Dhaka and Rajshahi stayed on top of the one-day table of the Ispahani Sixth National Cricket League with their fourth win yesterday but Khulna slipped to second place when the previous round's joint-leaders crashed to a home defeat against Sylhet.
Dhaka and Rajshahi are level on eight points after the fifth round with Sylhet and Khulna following the leaders on six points each.
Defending champions Chittagong's fourth defeat saw them stay on two points, just above winless Barisal.
Talha finished with an impressive 3-33 from ten overs while Munir and captain Khaled Mahmud each chipped in with a couple of wickets.
Rashedul Haque's stroke-filled 71 gave the Dhaka chase momentum as the tourists reached 201-4

when the visitors thrashed Chittagong by four wickets at the Chittagong Divisional Stadium.
New ball duo Anwar Hossain Munir and Talha Jubair, back after their tour of India with the Bangladesh Cricket Board XI, shared five wickets to restrict the home side to a moderate 198-9 in 50 overs.
After electing to bat, Chittagong who had Nafees Iqbal and Aftab Ahmed back from the Indian trip, crashed to 71-5 by the 18th over. With the top three -- Nazimuddin (1), Ehsanul (2) and Nafees (7) -- contributing just ten runs Aftab gave the total some respectability with a commanding 70 off 95 balls featuring three fours and one six.
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The match was reduced to 48-overs a-side due to a delayed start and the home side, after being sent in, scored 260-8, which was built around half-centuries by Moniruzzaman and Mushfiqur Rahman.
Opener Moniruzzaman's run-a-

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McGrath gives Aussies hope

AFP, Christchurch
A mesmerising six-wicket spell of swing bowling from Glenn McGrath pulled Australia back into the first Test against New Zealand to wrap up the first innings at 433, with the tourists 141 for three in reply at the stumps here Friday.
McGrath's six for 40 in a scintillating 10-over burst began when New Zealand had reached 388 for five and the innings ended just 45 runs later.
His mastery, coupled with a mature 146 by novice New Zealand Test batsman Hamish Marshall, left the honours even at

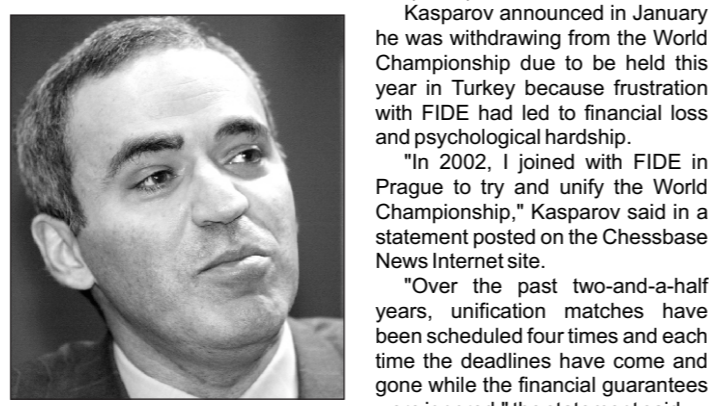
the end of the second day on the placid Jade Stadium wicket.
Australia made a flying start in reply to New Zealand's 433, batting at a run-a-ball for the first six overs and with Justin Langer becoming the fifth Australian to top 1,000 Test runs against New Zealand alongside Allan Border, David Boon, Steve Waugh and Greg Chappell.
But Langer was to fall soon after, bowled by James Franklin for 23, and Matthew Hayden, who survived a controversial not out from the third umpire after hooking Franklin to Craig Cumming, edged Test debutant Ian O'Brien to Nathan Astle in slips for 35.
The New Zealand team were fuming that Hayden wasn't given out when on eight and Cumming claimed the catch.
"It was out, we all thought it was out," Astle said.
"Hayden stood his ground and that was it. It went upstairs and obviously for some reason they didn't get it on TV."
Australia had an agreement with Sri Lanka in last year's series that a batsman would take a fielder's word if he claimed a catch, but New Zealand would not make a similar deal.
"That probably shows why you can't have an agreement, that sort of stuff today," Astle said.
"Yeah, I'd probably stand there (in the same situation). It's the way the game is, you've got technology and sometimes technology doesn't

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Checkmate for Kasparov

Chess
AFP, Linares (Spain)
Garry Kasparov, the former world chess champion who is still considered the world's greatest player, announced on Thursday that he was retiring from the professional game.
The emotional Grand Master made the surprise announcement after winning the Linares chess tournament here against Bulgaria's world number three Veselin Topalov, despite losing the final game.
"I will continue to play chess because it is a lot of fun, but no longer on a professional level. I will still play simultaneous games or blitz (lightning-fast) games but nothing else," the 41-year-old told a news conference in this city in southern Spain.

The Russian champion said he had taken the decision due to enormous pressure he had been under during the past few years and complained of a lack of support from the World Chess Federation (FIDE).
"I don't want to be pretentious or give lessons to anybody. I want to live my life," said the 'ogre of Baku', expressing his "disappointment concerning the process of reunifying the (world) title."
Kasparov announced in January he was withdrawing from the World Championship due to be held this year in Turkey because frustration with FIDE had led to financial loss and psychological hardship.
"In 2002, I joined with FIDE in Prague to try and unify the World Championship," Kasparov said in a statement posted on the Chessbase News Internet site.
"Over the past two-and-a-half years, unification matches have been scheduled four times and each time the deadlines have come and gone while the financial guarantees were ignored," the statement said.
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GARRY KASPAROV

Zia finishes in style

SPORTS REPORTER
Ziaur Rahman celebrated his Mercantile Bank 31st National Chess Championship title with a win when the Grand Master defeated Aminul Islam Palash in 13th and final round at the NSC conference room yesterday.
Zia, who had confirmed his second successive and overall 9th national crown in the penultimate round, finished unbeaten on 12 points.
International Master Reefat Bin Sattar became runner-up with 9.5 points while IM Abdullah Al Rakib clinched third place with nine points.
Tied on 8.5 points each, IM Enamul Hossain Rajib and GM Niaz Murshed were fourth and fifth respectively.
They were followed by FM Aminul Islam (7 points), national junior champion Mehdi Hasan
SEE PAGE 14 COL 1



BJMC's Sumita Rani (R) on her way to winning the women's 100 metres hurdles of the 30th National Athletics Championships at the MA Aziz Stadium in Chittagong yesterday.

PHOTO: ZOAER HOSSAIN SIDDER