



Sri Lanka batsman Michael Vandort ducks to a bouncer from England skipper Andrew Flintoff (R) during his century-knock on the fourth day of the second Test at Edgbaston on Sunday.

PHOTO: AFP

## New faces

FROM PAGE 17  
believed that it would be helpful for the national side.

"After returning from Zimbabwe, the A team players will get a week's break to join the national side," he said.

The selected cricketers are asked to report to coach Dav Whatmore, who returned yesterday after enjoying holidays at home, at 7.30am on June 1 at the Bangladesh Army Stadium.

Ace batsman Mohammad Ashraful, however, will miss the preliminary camp as the right-hander is now playing in the Liverpool league in England.

"He is allowed to join the team one week before our departure. I think there is no problem for Ashraful skipping training as he is in touch," said Faruque.

Bangladesh are expected to visit Kenya for three one-dayers prior to their Zimbabwe trip but the respective boards have yet to finalise the schedule.

On the other hand, Zimbabwe Cricket had recently sent a proposed itinerary for the five-match one-day series in July-August but it was yet to be disclosed officially as Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) is not fully satisfied with the tight schedule.

### SQUAD

Habibul Bashar, Shahriar Nafees, Javed Omar, Aftab Ahmed, Mohammad Ashraful, Rajin Saleh, Tushar Imran, Mohammad Rafique, Abdur Razzaq, Manjul Islam, Khaled Mashud, Mashruq Rahim, Alok Kapali, Forhad Reza, Sakib Al Hasan, Mashrafee Bin Mortaza, Syed Rasel, Shahadat Hossain and Tapash Baisya.



## Did U Know?

Cards - yellow and red - were introduced in World Cup in the 1970 version in Mexico. That tournament also saw the introduction of substitutes.



**Muttiah Muralidaran**  
(Master Sri Lanka spinner)  
"This one means a lot to me because I set a target when we were coming to England, that at least I would take five, six or seven wickets in a test match because it's going to be my last tour of England. We will next be here in 2010. I don't know if I'll still be playing then."  
On his six wickets in England's first innings in the second Test.



## What to WATCH

### TEN Sports

French Open  
Day Two  
Live at 3:00 pm

## Eng win easily in the end

### Cricket

AFP, Birmingham

Liam Plunkett's rapid three-wicket haul provided the platform on Sunday for England to beat Sri Lanka by six wickets in the second Test here at Edgbaston and take a 1-0 lead in the three-match series.

England, needing 78, finished on 81 for four with Alastair Cook 34 not out and England captain Andrew Flintoff four not out, to win with over a day to spare for what was only their second Test victory in nine matches.

Earlier, the 21-year-old Plunkett took three wickets for two runs in eight balls as England dismissed Sri Lanka for 231 before lunch on the fourth day.

He finished with a Test-best three for 17 as Sri Lanka lost their last five wickets for 12 runs and, in total, had match figures of six for 60.

Plunkett had been unable to bowl on Saturday's rain-affected third day because of a right shoulder injury sustained while fielding Friday.

But after England captain Andrew Flintoff had made the initial breakthrough, taking Farveez Maharoof caught and bowled, Plunkett took over.

He had Chaminda Vaas taken in the gully by Paul Collingwood and next ball the Durham duo combined again to dismiss Nuwan Kulasekara. Lasith Malinga survived the hat-trick ball but soon edged Flintoff to Strauss at second slip.

Michael Vandort was the last man out for 105 for the 26-year-old left-handed opener's second Test hundred.

Vandort became Plunkett's third victim when he was caught behind having batted for over six-and-a-half hours, facing 303 balls with nine fours.

Sri Lanka coach Tom Moody had said a target of 130 would be the minimum star off-spinner Muttiah Muralidaran needed to trouble England and bowl the

tourists to victory on a wearing pitch.

Muralidaran, who'd taken six for 86 in England's first innings, struck fourth ball to have Marcus Trescothick lbw for nought.

But with such a small target, and a lack of bowling quality at the other end, not even Muralidaran - who took all the England second wickets to fall on the way to four for 29 -- and a match return of 10 for 115, the 15th time he'd taken 10 or more wickets in a Test match, could rescue his side this time.

The third Test is due to start at Trent Bridge on Friday.

### SCOREBOARD

Final scorecard on the fourth day of the second Test between England and Sri Lanka at Edgbaston on Sunday:

**ENGLAND:** First innings 141 (Plunkett 3-43)

England: First innings 295 (Pietersen 142; Muralitharan 6-86)

**SRI LANKA:** Second innings (overnight 194-5)

Vandort c Jones b Plunkett 105

Tharanga c Jones b Hoggard 0

Sangakkara c Collingwood

b Panesar 18

Jayawardene lbw b Hoggard 5

Samaraweera st Jones b Panesar 8

Dilshan lbw b Hoggard 59

Maharoof c and b Flintoff 13

Vaas c Collingwood b Plunkett 1

Kulasekara c Collingwood

b Plunkett 0

Malinga c Strauss b Flintoff 2

Muralitharan not out 0

Extras: (lb-8, w-11) 20

Total: (All out in 93.2 overs) 231

Fall of wickets: 1-2, 2-38, 3-43, 4-

56, 1-81, 6-219, 7-223, 8-223, 9-

231

**Bowler** O M

Hoggard 22 8

64 3

Flintoff 19 3

50 2

Plunkett 13.2 6

17 3

Panesar 28 6

73 2

Mahmood 9 2

19 0

Collingwood 2 2

0 0

**ENGLAND:** Second innings

Trescothick lbw b Muralitharan 0

Strauss c Jayawardene

b Muralitharan 16

Cook not out 34

Pietersen lbw b Muralitharan 13

Collingwood c Sangakkara

b Muralitharan 3

Flintoff not out 4

Extras: (b-2, nb-9) 11

Total: (For 4 wkt in 27.2 overs) 81

Fall of wickets: 1-9, 2-35, 3-63, 4-

73, Did not bat: Jones, Plunkett,

Hoggard, Mahmood, Panesar

**Bowler** O M R W

Vaas 7 2 12 0

Malinga 7 1 29 0

Muralitharan 12.2 3

29 4

Dilshan 1 0 9 0

**Result:** England won by 6 wickets and lead three-Test series 1-0.

**Man-of-the-match:** Kevin Pietersen.

### Economy on hold

FROM PAGE 20

All Brazilian financial markets will be paralysed when Brazil -- who captured the world title in 1958, 1962, 1970, 1994 and 2002 -- take the field.

The Brazil Federation of Banks announced Thursday it would curtail hours of operation on the days Brazil are playing.

Brazil have never won a World Cup when they started the tournament as strong favourites, and have never successfully defended their title in Europe.

But that does not seem to deter home fans. A public opinion poll published Thursday showed that 79.8 percent of Brazilians believe they will bring home a record sixth crown.

"Shoaib is an important member of the team," said PCB director of cricket operations Saleem Altaf.

"But he will have to play in the practice games to prove he has made a full recovery from his knee problem."

## Bangladesh win volleyball Tests

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh volleyball team won the second Test match against visiting Nepal 3-1 at the Mirpur Indoor Stadium yesterday.

The hosts took 2-0 lead and play the third and final match on May 31 at the same venue.

The two teams play the first exhibition match today at Gazipur.

### BAF aquatics

SPORTS REPORTER

Najim won gold in the 50m backstroke in the inter-base swimming and water-polo competitions of the Bangladesh Air Force at the Naval Swimming Pool in the city yesterday.

Rajib won the 100m free-style.

In water-polo, Air Headquarters Unit defeated BAF Base Kurmitola 15-3 and BAF Base Matir Rahaman trounced BAF Base Paharkanchpur 7-1.

### India drop in ranking

PTI, Dubai

India paid a heavy price for their series defeat against the West Indies as they dropped two places to fifth in the latest ICC ODI rankings.

Brian Lara's team clinched the series taking an unbeatable 3-1 lead with one match left to play.

The defeat reversed India's recent successful run in ODIs as they succumbed to their first series loss in nine months and having lost four points, now find themselves at 112 ratings points behind Australia, South Africa, Pakistan and New Zealand.

Australia with 132 points are way ahead of second placed South Africa who have 119 points.

Both Pakistan and New Zealand gained from India's loss and surged ahead despite no change in their rating points.

## Practice ties for Shoaib

BBC ONLINE, undated

The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) is to arrange two special practice games to enable paceman Shoaib Akhtar to prove his fitness for the tour to England.

The 30-year-old underwent surgery on both knees at the start of the year.

But he says he is now bowling at over 90mph in the nets and has been named in a preliminary 21-man squad for the tour, which begins next month.

"Shoaib is an important member of the team," said PCB director of cricket operations Saleem Altaf.

"But he will have to play in the practice games to prove he has made a full recovery from his knee problem."

## N'ganj ride

FROM PAGE 17

Gaibanda edged past Bagerhat by 11 runs at the Sher-e-Bangla Stadium.

Gaibanda totalled a meagre 126, with Faruq scoring 20.

Under heavy skies, Bagerhat stuttered despite a half-century from Jupiter. They were eventually bowled out for 115 in 36.5 overs. Rakibul picked up four wickets for the win.

The match between Chandpur and Barisal at the Fatullah Cricket Stadium was postponed once again, due to heavy rain without a ball being bowled.

At the end of the match the English striker Gary Lineker famously said, "Football is a game with 22 players and in the end the Germans always win."

So, as in 1986, it was West Germany against Argentina in the final, with Franz Beckenbauer's side slight favourites on account of four Argentine first choice players missing the final through injury or suspension.

Argentina would have forced extra-time again if the unimpressive Codesal hadn't given a penalty when Voller went down in a tackle by Sensini. Matthaus, suffering a painful ankle, left the kick to Bremer, whose low shot edged past Goycochea. The two sending-off, the first in a Final, were almost expected: Monzon for a spectacular foul on Kinsmann, Dezotti for grabbing Kohler by the throat. Maradona, man-marked out of it by Buchwald, who towered over him, shed tears in Gazzetta quantities. A sight for sore English eyes. Argentina were the first team to fail to score in a Final. West Germany, in their last World Cup as a separate nation, were worthy enough winners but scored only a single goal in each of their last three matches: two from the penalty spot, the other (in a match decided on penalties) with a deflected free kick. The total of 16 red cards was a finals record at the time, the goals-per-game average of 2.