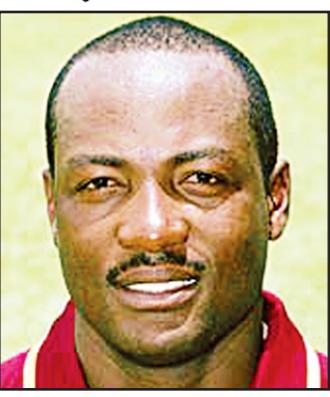




## Did U Know?

Alec Bedser, the former England fast bowler, is the only bowler to dismiss Sir Donald Bradman for a duck on more than one occasion.



**Brian Lara**

(West Indies cricket captain)  
"For me over my 15 or 16 years of playing international cricket, Tests and one-day internationals, Wasim Akram is definitely the most outstanding bowler I've ever faced."

## What to WATCH

BTV & SET Max	
ICC World Cup 2007 (Super Eights)	
Australia v Bangladesh	
Live at 7:30 pm	
<b>ESPN</b>	
English Premier Football League	
Liverpool v Arsenal	
Live at 5:40 pm	
Man United v Blackburn Rovers	
Live at 7:55 pm	
<b>STAR Sports</b>	
English Premier Football League	
West Ham v Middlesbrough	
Live at 7:55 pm	
Watford v Chelsea	
Live at 9:10 pm	
<b>Primera Liga</b>	
Barcelona v Deportivo	
Live at 2:00 am (Sunday)	

## DAY'S EVENT

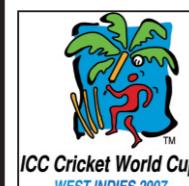
**B.League**  
Muktijuddha v Ctg Abahani (4:45 pm)  
Venue: Bangabandhu National Stadium  
National Cricket League (One-Day)  
Rajshahi v Sylhet  
Venue: Faujulah Cricket Stadium  
Dhaka v Chittagong  
Venue: BKSP  
Barisal v Khulna  
Venue: Dhamondi Cricket Stadium

AccessTEL		
THE BROADBAND COMPANY		
www.accesstel.net		
TODAY'S MATCH		
Team	Time	Venue
Australia v Bangladesh	7:30 pm	Antigua



## McGrath issues warning

AFP, St John's



Glenn McGrath believes Australia are a class apart as they chase an unprecedented third successive

World Cup title.

The reigning champions, winners in 1999 and 2003, as well as 1987, have won their last 22 World Cup matches and fast bowler McGrath cannot see a reason for that run to end out in Caribbean.

"I don't say anything I don't believe," said McGrath who is renowned for making predictions regarding series and tournament outcomes.

"If we go and play the way we have I can't really see any team getting close to us. In any Australian sport it seems that attitude is carried right across the board."

Before Australia's 2005 tour of England, McGrath predicted they would retain the Ashes 5-0. In the end they surrendered them 2-1.

But having seen Australia thrash hosts West Indies by 103 runs here on Wednesday, McGrath was in no mood to tone down his comments regarding Australia's prospects.

"We've been so successful over such a long time, we know how to win, what we've to do," said the veteran paceman.

Despite his form -- he took three

for 31 against the West Indies -- McGrath said he'd no regrets about his decision to retire and so spend more time with his wife Jane, who has suffered several bouts of cancer, and their children.

"If it was just about playing, I think I could continue all the time," he added.

"It's everything else that goes with it. The travel, the training, you name it, the time away from Jane and the kids."

"So I've been lucky enough to have 14 years at the top level so it's my turn to move on."

Not many will give McGrath, who caused one of this World Cup's biggest upsets by beating India, much of a chance at the weekend.

Then again even fewer people fancied their prospects two years ago when -- against an Australia side rated 1-500 to win -- inspired by a hundred from Mohammad Ashraful they beat the world champions by five wickets in Cardiff.

The most stunning victory in one-day international cricket history saw McGrath's 10 wicketless overs cost 43 runs.

### TEAMS

**AUSTRALIA** (probable): Adam Gilchrist (wk), Matthew Hayden, Ricky Ponting (capt), Michael

SEE PAGE 18 COL 8



PHOTO: AFP

IRELAND 1, JOYCE 0: Lanky Ireland seamer Boyd Rankin (L) is ecstatic after taking the wicket of England opener Ed Joyce who left a straight one during their World Cup Super Eights match at Guyana National Stadium in Georgetown on Friday.

## Nazrul rescues Abahani

Mohammedans split points in Ctg



### SPORTS REPORTER

the second half stoppage time maintained Abahani's winning run with a slim 1-0 defeat of Rahmatganj at the Bangabandhu National Stadium but it hardly satisfied their loyal fans who have seen just two goals in four matches from the most expensive team of the year.

Mohammedan, who had a tough fixture after two successive losses, drew goalless with Chittagong Mohammedan -- the surprise pack of the competition -- at the MA Aziz Stadium to remain in the middle of the table with five points from as many games.

Chittagong Mohammedan, who

upset Muktijuddha and snatched one point from Abahani in their previous big matches, are still undefeated at home. They are also on five points like their Dhaka wing but have one match in hand.

After an equally poised first half, the visitors came lively to create several chances but suffered due to poor finishing.

Emeka, who returned to the side after missing the Abahani match last week, failed to beat the rival goalie on one-on-one in the 65th

SEE PAGE 18 COL 6



Rahmatganj goalkeeper Apel punches out the ball to foil an Abahani corner during their B.League match at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

## BD A play first one-day today

### SPORTS REPORTER

Smarting from heavy defeats in the Test (four-day) series, Bangladesh A play their first one-day match against Sri Lanka A at the Colombo Cricket Club ground in Colombo today.

Tushar Imran's men have to try hard to restore the pride in the three-match series as they lost both the unofficial Tests to the home team by huge margins.

The second and third games are scheduled for April 2 and 4 respectively at the P Sara Stadium in Colombo.

## PCB wants fast trial

AFP, Islamabad

The Pakistan Cricket Board Thursday called on Jamaican authorities to complete the probe into the murder of coach Bob Woolmer as quickly as possible following reports that it may take months to resolve the mystery.

"The PCB is perturbed to know that the ongoing investigations regarding Bob Woolmer's death in Jamaica will take several months as stated by the Jamaican authorities," the board's chairman Nasim Ashraf said.

Woolmer was found strangled in his room at the Pegasus Hotel on March 18, one day after Pakistan were dramatically dumped out of the World Cup in a shock defeat to minnows Ireland.

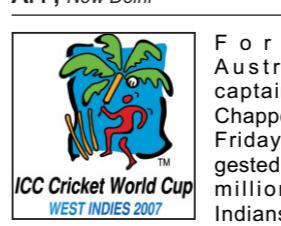
The killing has sparked one of the most complex murder investigations in Jamaican history and has triggered speculation about possible links to match-fixing and illegal betting in cricket.

Around 50 officers are now attempting to track down hundreds of potential witnesses who

SEE PAGE 18 COL 1

## 'Time up for Tendulkar'

AFP, New Delhi



Former Australian captain Ian Chappell on Friday suggested what millions of Indians had been

SEE PAGE 18 COL 7

dreadfully to hear -- the great Sachin Tendulkar should hang up his boots.

Chappell, whose younger brother Greg could be sacked as India's coach next week following the team's first round exit from the World Cup, said Tendulkar was past his prime and must retire.

"At the moment he looks like a

player trying to eke out a career;

build on a glittering array of statistics," the senior Chappell wrote in the Mumbai-based Mid-Day newspaper.

India's cricket chiefs will meet in Mumbai on April 6 and 7 to discuss the World Cup debacle and decide if coach Greg Chappell's two-year tenure is to be extended.

Ian Chappell said Tendulkar, who turns 34 next month, must decide soon if he wanted to continue or end

a brilliant 18-year career that has seen him score a record 35 Test and 41 one-day centuries.

He compared the Indian to another ageing veteran, 37-year-old West Indian captain Brian Lara, who is Test cricket's leading batsman with 11,953 runs from 131 matches.

"When you think that for a decade Lara and Tendulkar went head to head in a wonderful battle of stroke play to establish who was the best batsman in the world, they are now worlds apart in effectiveness," Chappell wrote.

"The amazing thing about Lara's brilliant career is the fact that he hasn't changed his style at all over 17 years.

"This is a credit to his technique

SEE PAGE 18 COL 8

## Kumble makes it official

### Cricket

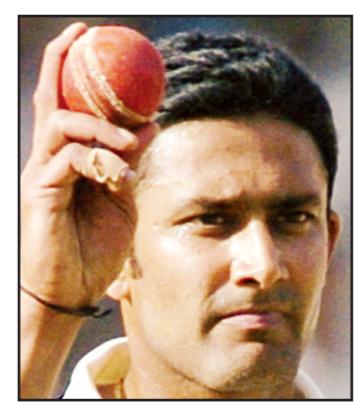
AFP, Bangalore

India's most successful bowler, Anil Kumble, officially announced his retirement from one-day cricket on Friday, but said he will remain available for Test matches.

"It's been a long, 17-year journey at the international level," Kumble told reporters here. "I may be over with one-dayers but I am definitely going to play Test cricket."

The 36-year-old leg-spinner had said in February that the World Cup would be his last one-day assignment and informed team-mates of his decision soon after India's campaign ended in the tournament.

The Indians, who were knocked



ANIL KUMBLE

## A much-needed closure

AFP, Cape Town

Murdered Pakistan cricket coach Bob Woolmer is to be bid a final farewell at a public memorial service in Cape Town next Wednesday, organisers said.

The event is to be held at the Wynberg Boy's high school, with speakers to include former South African cricketer Allan Donald, and Tim Noakes of the Sport Science Institute of South Africa with whom Woolmer co-authored a book on the art and science of cricket.

"The service will be led by Reverend Jerome Francis who was coached by Bob from the age of 11," said a statement issued on behalf of Woolmer's family.

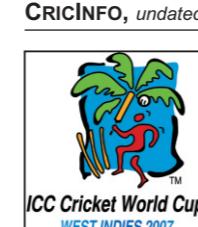
There will be a separate designated area for close friends of the Woolmer family who live in the Cape Town area.

Woolmer, also a former coach of South Africa, was found strangled

SEE PAGE 18 COL 7

## Hayden struts back

CRICINFO, undated



When Matthew Hayden was dropped from Australia's one-day side after the 2005 Ashes tour, it seemed the end of the road had been reached for a batsman who, for a short but blistering period in the early 2000s,

was the most powerful player in the game. Many have presented better techniques or shown greater deftness of touches, but none had carried themselves quite like Hayden, a prize-fighter who wielded his bat much as Muhammad Ali used to wield a right fist.

At the end of that series Hayden had been found out. He was a bully, albeit a mighty effective one. His successes and failures against, in particular, Matthew Hoggard became the stuff of playground

SEE PAGE 18 COL 5

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