

## Five women share lead

SPORTS REPORTER

Five players shared the lead in the 29th Aromatic Gold National Women's Chess Championship at the federation hall-room yesterday.

At the end of the fourth round, IWM Rani Hamid, WFM Syeda Shabana Parveen, WFM Shamima Akhter, Sharmin Sultana and Nazrana Khan have three points each after their respective matches.

Rani beat Jahannara Haque while Shabana also won her match against Arifa Khatun, while Shamima trounced Masuda Begum.

There were draws for Sharmin and Nazrana on the day.

## Samuels can't bowl: ICC

AFP, Dubai

West Indies' Marlon Samuels has been suspended from bowling in international cricket for a suspect action, the International Cricket Council (ICC) announced here on Monday.

"Samuels has been suspended from bowling in international cricket pending fresh assessment after independent analysis of his bowling action revealed that his off-break and fast deliveries exceeded the 15 degrees level of tolerance permitted under regulations," the ICC said in a statement.

The independent analysis was performed by Dr Mark King, member of the ICC panel of human movement specialists, at the National Cricket Academy, at Loughborough University in England on February 11.

The analysis showed that Samuels' average elbow flexion/extension angle for an off-break delivery was 27 degrees while the elbow flexion/extension angle for his faster delivery was 35 degrees. The elbow flexion/extension angle for his arm ball was two degrees.

Although only his fast deliveries were reported as suspect, the ICC process required his action generally, including the fast delivery, to be analysed.

Samuels, primarily a batsman, was reported by umpires Simon Taufel and Aleem Dar last month for a suspected illegal bowling action with regard to his 'faster ball' during the third Test against South Africa in Durban.

He has taken just seven Test wickets as an off-spinner at an expensive average of 127.

But the 27-year-old got through more overs than usual in Durban because of an injury to Chris Gayle.

Samuels has the right to appeal the ICC's ruling.

## Gazi Tank ride

FROM PAGE 17  
ground. Kathalagan were aided by Shuvo's 31 in their quest as they fell to 182 all out in 46.1 overs.

Uttara Sporting Club (161-5 in 43.4 overs) beat Rupali Bank (160 all out in 38 overs) by five wickets and Dhammondi Club (120-2 in 32.4 overs) trounced Sadharan Bima (119 all out in 35.3 overs) by eight wickets to register their second victories of the competition.

There were first wins for Cricket Coaching School and Jatrabari. A strong side from the outskirts of the capital, Jatrabari made 216-10 in the final over. In reply, Indira Road were bowled out for 197 runs in 47.5 overs, with Rajib taking four wickets.

CCS (219-4 in 46.5 overs) cruised past Badda (216-7 in 50 overs) at the BKSP ground, with Faisal top-scoring with 66.

## Mohammedan

FROM PAGE 17  
Top Indian sides East Bengal, Mohun Bagan and Kolkata Mohammedan are other teams in the meet but the main attraction would be South African club Orlando Pirates.

"We have played a tournament (Victory Day Club Cup) recently and after that, we had a few days practice," former national football Manik said about their inadequate preparation.

## Bangladesh

FROM PAGE 17  
while five went the visitors' way.

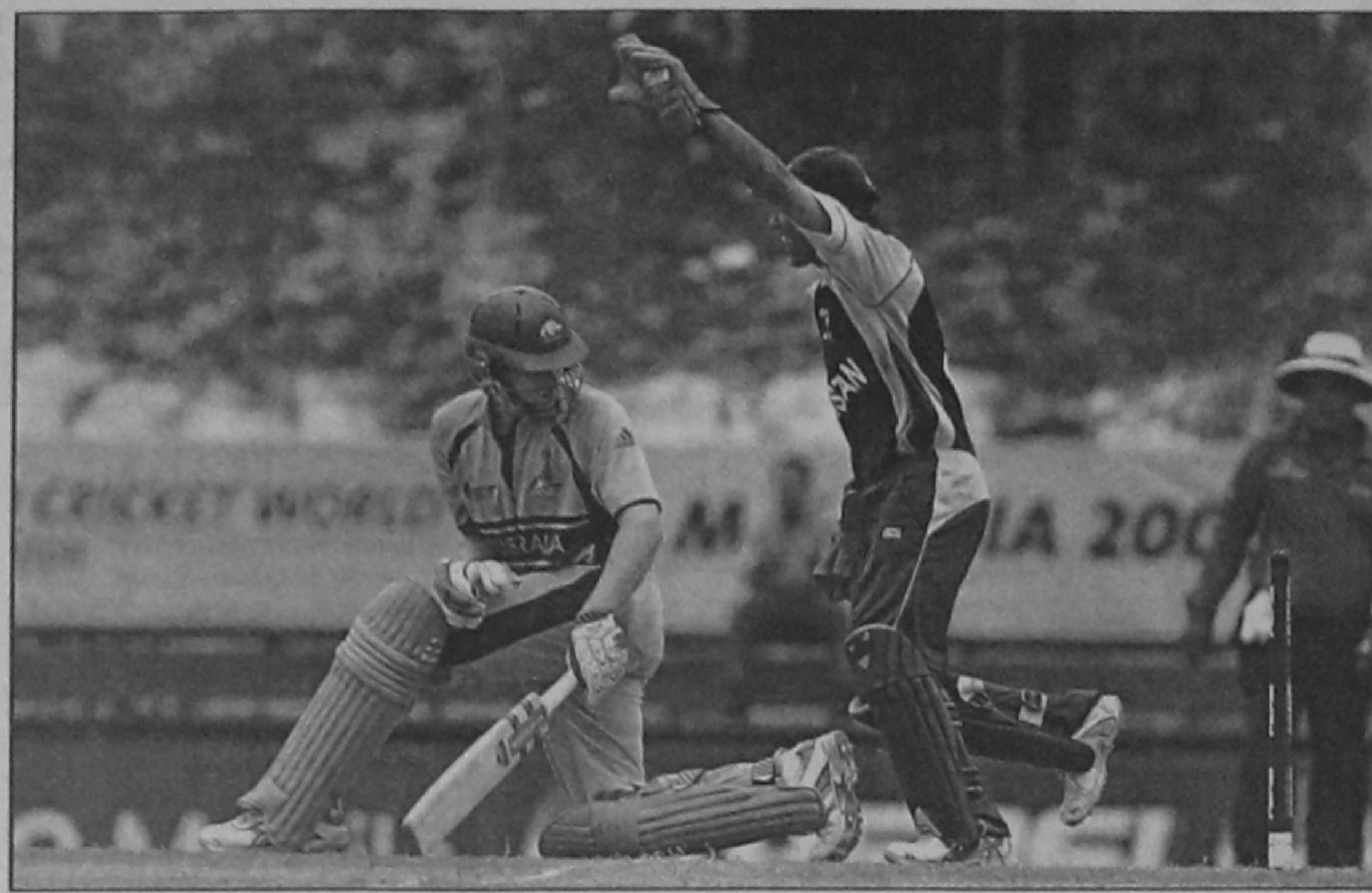
For the hosts, Dolly Akhter won the day's first event -- the women's 50m breaststroke -- where Monalisa was unsuccessful and had to remain satisfied with a bronze.

Monalisa bagged 50m butterfly and 200m medley while her teammates Tripura Pal won the 200m backstroke and 200m freestyle events.

For the home side, Jewel Ahmed picked up the 200m medley gold, Rubel Rana won 200m backstroke and Nazmul won the 200m freestyle.

Local favourite Karar Samedul Islam lost the men's 50m breaststroke gold to compatriot Kamal Hossain.

In the men's 4x100 medley relay, Bangladesh won gold but the West Bengal took revenge in the women's event.



Pakistan wicketkeeper Ali Asad runs off to celebrate after he caught Australia's Michael Cranmer (L) off Azhar Attari during their ICC Under-19 World Cup quarterfinal at the Kinrara Cricket Oval in Kuala Lumpur on Monday.

## NZ, Pak cruise



AFP, Kuala Lumpur

Defending champions Pakistan stayed on course for a hat-trick of under-19 World Cup titles with a six-wicket win over Australia on Monday to enter the semifinals.

Pakistan, who won the last two tournaments in 2004 and 2006, steamrolled Australia for 129 after electing to field and then surpassed the modest target in the 28th over at the Kinrara Oval.

New Zealand joined Pakistan, second-seeded India and South Africa in the semifinals with an 80-run victory over Sri Lanka in the last quarterfinal at the Royal Selangor Club here.

The young Kiwis scored 213 after being given first strike and then bowled out Sri Lanka for 133 in 42.1 overs.

India, runners-up to Pakistan in the 2006 event in Sri Lanka, clash with New Zealand in Wednesday's day-night semifinal at the Kinrara Oval.

Pakistan take on South Africa under lights in the other semifinal at the same venue on Friday.

Pakistan dominated a disappointing quarterfinal from start to finish after captain Imad Wasim won the toss and sent the Australians in to bat.

Seamer Adil Raza grabbed the wickets of Phillip Hughes and

Marcus Stoinis in the first over of the innings and the young Aussies were unable to recover from the disastrous start.

Steven Smith made 22 and James Pattinson chipped in with 34 but no other batsman was able to defy the accurate Pakistani attack.

Raza, a 16-year-old who hails from Gujranwala, finished with 3-26 while Wasim, Azhar Attari and Umar Akmal picked up two wickets each.

Pakistan stuttered in their reply when Josh Hazlewood removed Umar Amin and Umar Mir in the seventh over to reduce the champions to 32-3.

But Ahmad Shahzad and left-hander Ali Asad put on 95 for the fourth wicket to crush Australia's hopes.

Shahzad fell for 40 when three runs were needed for victory, while left-hander Asad was named man of the match for his unbeaten 63.

"It was good we won the toss because the ball was swinging a bit in the morning and helped our seamers," said Pakistan's coach Mansoor Rana.

"Even though we lost early wickets, I knew my batsmen were capable enough of chasing the target."

"I have not seen the South Africans play but I think it will be a good semifinal because South Africa is always a very competitive side."

In the other quarterfinal, New Zealand put up a challenging 213 with opener George Worker making 48, captain Kane Williamson 34

and Fraser Colson 39.

Off-spinners Umesh Karunaratna and Roshan Silva claimed three wickets each, while left-arm slow bowler Navin Kavikara took two.

New Zealand seamers Tim Southee and Trent Boult wrecked Sri Lanka's reply, reducing the Islanders to 44-4 by the 11th over.

Left-handed Sachith Pathirana was the lone batsman to offer resistance, making a stroke-filled 42 before he was stumped off by Nicolas Beard in the 34th over.

Southee finished with 3-25, Boult took 1-34 and India-born seamer Anurag Varma claimed 2-22.

### BRIEF SCORES

AUSTRALIA: 129 all out in 47.2 overs (Steven Smith 22, James Pattinson 34; Adil Raza 3-26, Azhar Attari 2-23, Imad Wasim 2-21, Umar Akmal 2-20)

PAKISTAN: 130-4 in 27.5 overs (Ahmad Shahzad 40, Ali Asad 63 not out; Josh Hazlewood 2-31)

Result: Pakistan beat Australia by six wickets at Kinrara Oval.

NEW ZEALAND: 213 all out in 49.5 overs (George Worker 48, Kane Williamson 34, Fraser Colson 39; Umesh Karunaratna 3-38, Roshan Silva 3-39, Navin Kavikara 2-33)

SRI LANKA: 133 all out in 42.1 overs (Sachith Pathirana 42, Tim Southee 3-25, Anurag Varma 2-22)

Result: New Zealand beat Sri Lanka by 80 runs at Royal Selangor Club.

### SEMIFINAL LINE-UPS

India v New Zealand on Wednesday

South Africa v Pakistan on Friday

### 4TH JFA CUP

## N'ganj reach finals in style

MANIKGANI CORRESPONDENT

Sohel Hossain slammed five goals as Narayanganj destroyed Narshingdi 8-1 here yesterday to reach the final round of the 4th JFA Cup Under-15 Football Championship as Manikganj zone champions.

Dulal added one goal for Narayanganj who were helped by two own-goals. Masum reduced the arrears for Narshingdi.

Sports Reporter adds: Hosts Dinajpur and Khulna also entered the finals after comfortable 4-1 and 4-0 wins over Kurigram and Chuadanga respectively.

In other matches, Pabna blanked Meherpur 3-0 at home while Chittagong dumped Laxmipur 5-0 at Cox's Bazar.

## T&T clinch Stanford's million

CRICINFO, undated

Trinidad and Tobago, led by a four-wicket haul from Dave Mohammed, cruised to a nine-wicket win over Jamaica with 64 balls to spare to claim the \$1 million jackpot in the second edition of the Stanford 20/20.

The final was a rather one-sided affair as a strangely subdued Jamaica never posted anything like enough runs to trouble a strong Trinidad team. Put in to bat, they lost Shaun Findlay to the second ball when he fished at a delivery from seamer Rayner Enrit and was caught by Denesh Ramdin.

Xavier Marshall and Marlon Samuels made steady progress but grew increasingly beleaguered. Marshall dragged a delivery from legspinner Samuel Badree, who was opening the bowling, onto his stumps and five balls later, Samuels attempted heave off Dwayne Bravo only resulted in an easy catch to Lendl Simmons at long-on.

From there they lost all momentum, and plunged to 63 for 5 when Mohammed dismissed the dangerous Chris Gayle and the in-form Danza Hyatt, who had been Jamaica's mainstay in their semifinal triumph over Guyana. Gayle managed to inside-edge a flick onto his stumps while Hyatt was deceived by a flighted delivery to be stumped.

Mohammad had his third scalp when he missed a sweep off a ball that pitched from middle and leg. A direct hit from Bravo at mid-on, for which he won the Play of the Day, accounted for David Bernard before Taylor was bowled by Mohammed, who would go on to claim the Man-of-the-Match award. Enrit cleaned up Nikita Miller to bring about the end of Jamaica's innings.

Chasing a modest 92, Trinidad lost Ramdin with their score on 19 when he edged Jerome Taylor to wicketkeeper Carlton Baugh. But this brought together Simmons and William Perkins, who blitzed 74 runs off 47 balls to lead the victory charge. Williams was especially severe on the Jamaica bowlers, smashing six fours and a six on his way to an unbeaten 50 off 33 balls, while Simmons' 26 not out featured four fours and a towering six over long-on off Samuels.

### BRIEF SCORES

JAMAICA: 91 all out in 16.4 overs (Samuels 27, Mohammed 4-20)

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO: 94-1 in 9.2 overs (Perkins 50\*)

Result: T&T won by nine wickets.

Man-of-the-match: Dave Mohammed.

### Shah brightens

### Test prospects

REUTERS, Wellington

Owais Shah enhanced his claims for a place in the England team for next month's test series against New Zealand with 96 in the tour match against Otago on Monday.

Shah fell agonisingly short of a century but still provided the selectors with a reminder of his ability when England piled on 396 for nine on the opening day at Dunedin's University Oval.

Opener Alastair Cook continued his impressive form with 85 and Ian Bell made an unbeaten 75 after initially retiring on 59.

While most of the batting positions are virtually decided, Shah and former captain Andrew Strauss are both vying for a spot in the side.

Strauss missed his chance to make a big score on Monday when he was out hit wicket to Mark Gillespie, striking his stumps while trying to deflect the ball away.

While Strauss was ruing his misfortune, Shah survived a confident appeal for caught behind on 29 then was dropped on 38.

"It's obviously good to impress the selectors and put some runs on the board," Shah told the New Zealand Press Association.

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## A virtual semifinal

CRICINFO, Hobart



It's a face-off that both India and Sri Lanka could have avoided, but they have only themselves to blame for turning their final encounter of the CB Series into a virtual semi-final for one and knockout for the other.

Despite holding the edge on at least one occasion against Australia, both teams would envy Ricky Ponting's men letting their hair down at Tuesday's Allan Border medal presentation while they get into a dogfight at the Bellerive Oval.

Such has been the nature of this series so far that, apart from Australia, no team has consistently capitalised on the weaknesses of the opponents. In the three previous games between the two teams, India and Sri Lanka have one victory each while their first encounter of the series, in Brisbane, was abandoned due to rain. Sri Lanka stand on the precipice and to pull themselves back they need to defeat India and then repeat that result against Australia on Friday, India, meanwhile, will seal their berth in the final if they win on Tuesday.

"We wouldn't like to wait for the result on February 29," Mahendra Singh Dhoni said. "We would like to seal the match against Sri Lanka and not leave it to the last game between Australia and Sri Lanka. This game is very important for us."

The Indian captain has already alerted his troops about the task, terming Sri Lanka "very tricky" opponents.

Sri Lanka have the advantage of having played at this venue twice

this season. They lost a Test here in November and then Tasmania slapped a seven-wicket defeat on them in the practice game ahead of the tri-series. "The Test-match wicket was much harder compared to the practice match that was played on a different one, but we have a fair idea of the wicket. It depends on the conditions, which can be overcast here sometimes, so we'll wait and see," Mahela Jayawardene, Sri Lanka's captain, said after a net session.

The conditions played a huge role in the last one-day match at the ground, when Tasmania won a closely fought encounter on Saturday to lift the Ford Ranger Cup by one wicket after rain interruptions converted Victoria's original target of 158 to 131 in 31 overs. The forecast for Tuesday is mostly sunny with temperatures in the range of 20°C. The wicket at the Bellerive Oval is likely to offer significant sideways movement, which could be a key factor for both captains when they sit down to choose their final XI.

Dhoni already has a couple of issues to tackle, one of which is the failure of his opening pair, Sachin Tendulkar and Virender Sehwag. One option could be to push Robin Uthappa, who scored a 46-ball 51 down the order on Sunday against Australia, ahead of Sehwag. Dhoni doesn't want to disturb an in-form Gautam Gambhir's fine run at No.3 but felt he had enough options to choose from.

The other matter is that of fatigue. Players like Dhoni and Ishant Sharma have been playing non-stop from the start of the Test series and India's inability to qualify for the finals means these two have had no time to rest. "It's tough on guys like Ishant and Gautam, but we have some time to recover

and we need them," was Dhoni's response to whether a 36-hour break was enough for the team to bounce back after Sunday's game against Australia.

Without any indication of the combination he will opt for, Jayawardene's focus was on Tuesday and not too far down the road. "We have to win both the games. If we get our batting sorted out, we have a very good chance," he said. "We need to concentrate first on getting the victory on Tuesday." Both teams have their share of top-order batting concerns and there's an outside chance, given the Hobart conditions, that they both go in with five bowlers. If Munaf Patel recovers from a bout of food poisoning suffered on Saturday he might just sneak into the Indian XI. Sri Lanka, on the other hand, have dropped Farveez Maharoof and Chanaka Welegedara. Tillakaratne Dilshan is likely to continue in the middle order, with one out of Upul Tharanga and Dilruwan Perera opening with Sanath Jayasuriya. Depending on the conditions, they will choose from Chamara Kapugedera and Nuwan Kulasekara for the last spot in the XI.

**TEAMS**  
INDIA (likely): Robin Uthappa, Sachin Tendulkar, Gautam Gambhir, Rohit Sharma, Mahendra Singh Dhoni (captain), Yuvraj Singh, Irfan Pathan, Harbhajan Singh, Sreesanth, Ishant Sharma, Munaf Patel.  
SRI LANKA (from): Sanath Jayasuriya, Upul Tharanga, Dilruwan Perera, Tillakaratne Dilshan, Kumar Sangakkara, Mahela Jayawardene (captain), Chamara Silva, Chamara Kapugedera, Chaminda Vaas, Muttiah Muralidaran, Ishara Amerasinghe, Nuwan Kulasekara, Lasith Malinga.

## Smith no issue for Warne

AFP, Adelaide

Australia's Shane Warne said on Monday he was looking forward to playing alongside long-time antagonist Graeme Smith when the Indian Premier League (IPL) starts in April.

The pair has a history of antipathy stretching back to 2002 when South African captain Smith detailed the earthy sledging he received on his Test debut against Australia.

Retired champion leg-spinner Warne admits his first thoughts on hearing he would play alongside Smith for Jaipur were not printable.

But he said he has had a few days since the Indian Premier League (IPL) player auction to reflect on the circumstances of getting to know Smith in a team environment when the Twenty20 tournament starts on April 18.

"I won't tell you what my first impression was," Warne told reporters here Monday.

"When you play against people and you're both playing for your country you might not see eye to eye, and I haven't seen eye to eye with Graeme about a lot of things," he said.

"When we played against him we didn't need to say anything, he just kept doing the talking and we kept winning, so that did our talking for us."

"In a funny sort of way I'm actually looking forward to it, so it'll be interesting to see how he ticks and hopefully he can help me out with a few of the younger players in the side."

"It's a unique experience for myself to play alongside guys like Graeme, we're playing together in the same side where we haven't got along well over the years but hopefully we might get along as teammates."

Smith said last week that he was also looking forward to playing with Warne.

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## Sharma fined as relations strain

AFP, Sydney



Indian pace-man Ishant Sharma has been fined 15 per cent of his match fee after clashing with Australia's Andrew Symonds in their latest tri-series match, spiking tensions between the sides again.

Reports on Monday said India had responded to the fine by making a complaint about the hosts' provocative behaviour.

In the incident on Sunday Symonds took offence to Sharma's celebration after he was clean bowled by the teenager and the Indian responded by pointing him towards the pavilion.

Sharma was charged under the International Cricket Council (ICC) code of conduct for the incident and faced a disciplinary hearing

before match referee Jeff Crowe at the team hotel after the match.

"The gesture was a direct breach of the ICC code of conduct," Crowe said in a statement. "I took into account the fact that Sharma may have been provoked and that this was his first offence and hence the penalty was at the lower end of the scale."

"Clearly both teams are still sensitive to each other's actions in the middle -- (the) ICC has recently reiterated that a zero tolerance attitude will be shown to abusive or insulting language and actions."

Symonds has had a strained relationship with the Indians since the Sydney Test, when he accused bowler Harbhajan Singh of racism. The ICC appeals commissioner was later critical of the Australian in the incident.

Website Cricinfo reported on Monday that India had written to Crowe about provocative behaviour from the Australians. Indian team manager Dr Bimal Soni con-

firmed they had lodged a complaint of their own, Cricinfo said.

"The umpires, based on what they had seen in the middle, reported to the match referee about the incident," Cricinfo quoted Soni as saying.

"Our plea was Symonds (provoked) Ishant and that's why he did what he did. He (Crowe) promised he would be speaking with the Australian captain about the matter."

Speaking in Hobart ahead of Tuesday's tri-series clash with India, Sri Lankan captain Mahela Jayawardene weighed into the controversy on Monday.

Aggression on the field was all right as long as it didn't get out of hand, he said, adding: "Sunday was probably just a bit of frustration from both parties."

"As long as it doesn't boil into a major issue then it should be OK. The aggressive nature can bring the best out of some guys."