

# Star

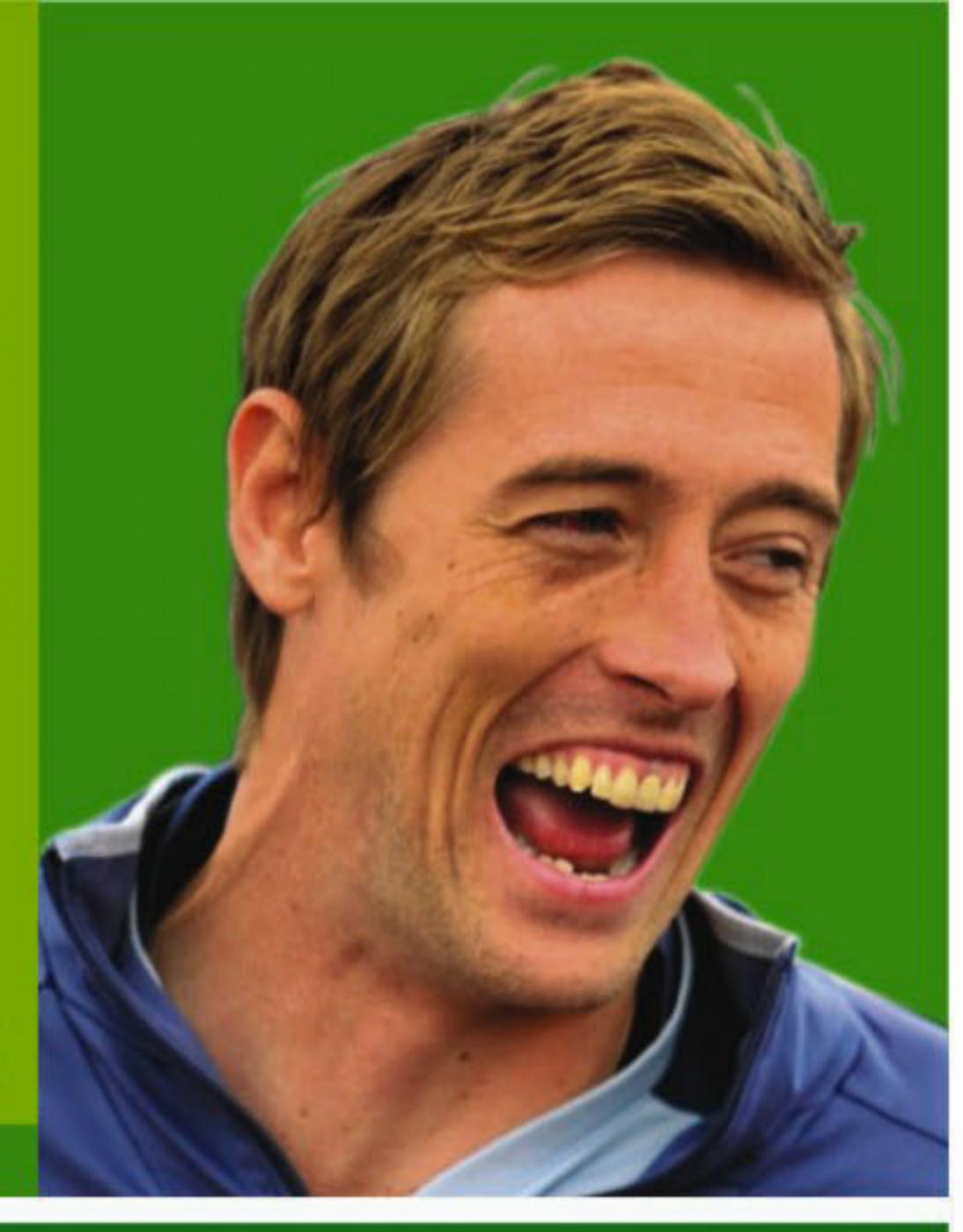
# SPORT

DHAKA WEDNESDAY JUNE 8, 2011, E-MAIL: sports@thecricketstar.net

## Crouch rejects quit claims

England striker Peter Crouch on Tuesday rejected reports indicating he planned to quit international football after being consistently snubbed by Fabio Capello. Crouch, 30, was reported to have called time on his England career after failing to even win a place on the bench for Saturday's 2-2 draw with Switzerland at Wembley. However the tall Spurs forward, who has netted an impressive 22 goals in 42 games for England, insisted on Tuesday that he had not turned his back on playing international football.

- AFP



## Barnes turns down BCB offer

CRICKET

Vincent Barnes has turned down an offer to coach Bangladesh but has been asked to reconsider his decision by the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB). Barnes' contract as South Africa's assistant coach will be terminated at the end of June and he is not part of the revamped national set-up under newly-appointed coach Gary Kirsten.

"I did turn it [Bangladesh job] down, but I have been asked to reconsider," Barnes told ESPNcricinfo on Monday.

At a press conference in Johannesburg, Cricket South Africa named Russell Domingo, who coached the Warriors, as assistant to Kirsten, and Allan Donald as the bowling coach. Barnes was offered a role at the High Performance Centre in Pretoria. Gerald Majola, the CSA chief executive, said they were waiting for a response from Barnes.

If Barnes does not reverse his Bangladesh decision, it will be a setback for the BCB, who had said they were close to signing him to fill the vacancy created by Jamie Siddons' departure after a disappointing World Cup campaign. Stuart Law, the interim coach of Sri Lanka, was also in the running but there were reports of his chances failing due to a disagreement over conditions with the BCB.

## 2nd ODI today

PTI, Port of Spain

It was not the most comprehensive of wins but having taken a morale-boosting 1-0 lead in the series, India would look to press home the advantage against a nervy West Indies in the second one-dayer, here today.

The four-wicket win in the first one-dayer came after a wobbly start and the second-string Indian team would be aiming to plug the loopholes as the series progresses.

Missing key players Sachin Tendulkar and regular captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni, the young team led by Suresh Raina benefited from the West Indians' follies in the lung-opener.

The Caribbeans, on the other hand, would hope to tilt the scale in their favour by picking up on the few positives they gained from the four-wicket loss at the Queen's Park Oval here Monday night.



England batsman Alastair Cook swivels to hook a delivery during his century on the fifth and final day of the second Test against Sri Lanka at Lord's yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

## Cook's final day flourish

Cricket

AFP, London

Alastair Cook scored his third century in four Test innings to help give England a chance of a series-clinching victory against Sri Lanka at Lord's here on Tuesday.

Sri Lanka were 32 for one in their second innings at tea on the fifth and final day, needing a further 311 runs in the final session's 45 overs to reach their victory target of 343.

The highest score ever made in the fourth innings to win a Test at Lord's was 344 for one, needing 342, by the West Indies against England in 1984.

England lead the three-match series 1-0 after dismissing Sri Lanka for just 82 inside 25 overs in an innings and 14-

run first Test win in Cardiff.

Before tea, Sri Lanka lost acting captain Kumar Sangakkara, opening in place of injured skipper Tillakaratne Dilshan, for 12 when he cut Chris Tremlett to Eoin Morgan at backward point.

Tharanga Paranavitana, who might have been stumped by Matt Prior, was nine not out and Mahela Jayawardene five not out.

Earlier, England declared their second innings on 335 for seven after Cook made 106 and Ian Bell 57 not out.

Left-handed opener Cook's century was his third hundred in four Test innings following scores of 189 against Australia in Sydney, 133 against Sri Lanka in the first Test in Cardiff and 96 in the first innings of this match.

He was eventually out when third umpire Aleem Dar, after long delibera-

tion, decided he had been stumped by Prasanna Jayawardene off impressive left-arm spinner Rangana Herath to end a five-half-hour innings.

Herath was the pick of Sri Lanka's attack with three for 87 in 24 overs.

Cook's exit sparked a flurry of late wickets as England went in search of quick runs.

England resumed Tuesday on 149 for two, a lead of 156, with Cook 61 not out and Kevin Pietersen 15 not out.

It looked as if they would bat through Tuesday's morning session without losing a wicket.

But, shortly before lunch, Pietersen was bowled by Herath for 72 to end a third-wicket partnership of 127 with Cook.

Sri Lanka, as they had on Monday, took the field without Dilshan.

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