## SPORT

itself

their career.

in reliability becoming an end in

and playing a full county programme

are often incompatible, so many

who might have a chance of becom-

ing genuinely quick settle instead for

cutting their speed and prolonging

developing "mystery" spinners or, as was the case in the 1980s out and out quicks, many counties

simply get round this by importing

And as for the tricky business of

The demands of bowling flat out

#### 33 booters selected

#### BSS, Dhaka

Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) has primarily selected 33 players for the residential training camp of the national and under-23 teams to take part in the ninth South Asian Federation (SAF) Games, the Asian Cup and Olympic Qualifying Round.

The players have been asked to contact BFF assistant general secretary Badal Roy before February 20.

The players are Aminul Haque, Biplob Bhattacharjee, Mohammad Sujon, Papel Mahmud, Saifur Rahman Moni, Rajani Kanta Barman, Hasan Al

-Mamun, Arman Mian and Motiur Munna (Muktijoddha Sangsad); Firoze Mahmud Titu, Mahmudul Hasan, Monwar Hossain, Rokonuzzaman Kanchan, Faisal Mahmud, Arif Khan Joy, Abdul Quaiyum Sentu and Ariful Kabir Farhad (Mohammedan Sporting Club) Mostafa Anwar Parvez, Rezaul Karim Liton, Muksudul Alam Bulbul, Asadur Rahman, Amit Khan Shubhro, Titumir Chowdhury Titu and Nazrul Islam (Abahani Krira Chakra) Shamsher Alam, Mehedi Hasan Újjal and Zulfikar Mahmud Mintu (Badda Jagoroni) Mohammad Ripon and Mizanur Rahman (Bangladesh Army) Ashraful Kader Monju (Dhanmondi) Saiful Islam and Azmol Hossain Bidyut (Arambagh) and Abul Hossain (Victoria Sporting Club).

#### Schools hockey

#### BSS, Dhaka

Groups Ga and Gha competitions of the Metro Group National School Hockey Tournament begin at Maulana Bhasani National Hockey Stadium today.

Each group comprises four teams. Matches of this round finish on February 20.

Group Ga: Armanitola Government High School (Dhaka), Chittagong Municipal Model High School (Chittagong), The Aided High School (Sylhet) and Combanager Model High School Kanchannagar Model High School (Jhenidah).

Group Gha: Dr Mohammad run getters Shahidullah High School (Dhaka) River View High School (Rajshahi) Muslim Academy (Jessore) and Begum Rokeya Khondoker High School (Narayanganj).

#### Irresponsible

FROM PAGE 16 the team whenever his country needed a big score from him.. Ganguly needs to follow Waugh's

example," Imran said. UTTARA He said despite being familiar with the South African conditions, Indian players were struggling to put

up a fight as their morale was down. "The problem with India right now is low morale. There is absolutely no self- belief. They are still suffering from their devastating Test and one-day defeats in New Zealand."

"Many of the players are familiar remaining with the South African conditions and really there should be no excuses for a batting performance like that." Imran said.



PHOTO: STAR

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Result:Mohammedan SC won by

Brothers' Shahriar Hossain follows through on a cut during his knock of 82 against Victoria Sporting Club in the GrameenPhone Premier Division Cricket League at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Uttara tasted their second defe against three wins.

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2 0

8

remains to be seen whether Flower

regime of the strife-torn country's

the tournament for the two players,

but the International Cricket Council

(ICC) decided not to take any action

after the pair were reported by their

national board for bringing the game

World Cup matches between the

sides, but their already fragile

batting confidence was further

undermined by a nine-wicket drub-

bing at the hands of Australia on

Ganguly's men were routed for

125 by the world champions, India's

lowest ever World Cup total, and

that followed a scratchy batting

performance in their opening victory

over the Netherlands when they

India captain Saurav Ganguly,

who must also be worried about his

personal batting form, admitted

faltering World Cup campaign.

India have won six of the seven

That protest could have ended

resident Robert Mugabe.

into disrepute.

Saturday.

for 204.

his team's fortunes.

0 38

0 19

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18

0 46

SCOREBOARD

## Victoria on a roll

#### Cricket

#### SPORTS REPORTER

Scoreboards of the tw GrameenPhone Premier Divisio Holders Victoria Sporting Club extended their 100 per cent record in the GrameenPhone Premier Division Cricket League to five with a tense ten-run win over Brothers Union after the elite league resumed after seven-day break yesterday. Cricket League matches yesterday Victoria SC v Brothers Union Venue: BNS **VICTORIASC** Wasim run out Fifties from opener Parvez Ahmed and middle-order Azam Igbal helped the Victorians collect 252 for six in the stipulated 50 overs after electing to bat first at the Bangabandhu National Stadium. Parvez run out Nuruzzaman c & b Alam Azam c Masroor b Alam Anisur c Shamimul b Mustadir Salim b Shahnewaz Sabbir not out Parvez scored 66 off 104 balls with five boundaries while Azam hit 51 off 67 balls with a six and a four. Manzarul not out Extras: (b-1, lb-10, nb-2, w-7) 20 Opener Wasim Nayeem (43) and Total: (For 6 wkts in 50 overs) 252 two middle order batsmen Ansur Rahman (23) and Mohammad Salim (20) were the other notable Fall of wickets: 1-81, 2-114, 3-15 4-203, 5-215, 6-241 Bowler Morshed In reply, Brothers were restricted to 242 for nine with opener Shahriar Hossain hammering highest 82. Shahnewaz Mustadir The former national opener faced 137 balls for his 82 that fea-tured a couple of sixes and two Masroor Alam Saniav boundaries. Victoria remained atop the table and raised their tally to 26 points. On the other hand, it was Brothers Union's fourth straight defeat against a win that kept them on six MOHAMMEDAN V

**BROTHERS UNION** Shahriar Ibw b Saiful Sanjay c Manzarul b Nuruzzaman Salauddin c Saiful b razzak Halim b Razzak Masroor Ibw b Masudur Mahbub run out Mustadir c Azam b Razaak Elsewhere, middle order batsman Naimur Rahman scored a half-century to propel Mohammedan Sporting Club to a hard-fought two-wicket win over powerful side Uttara Sporting Club at the Fatullah Cricket Stadium Shamimul run out Shahnewaz run out Alam not out Morshed not out Extras: (lb-6, nb-3, w-10) In a low-scoring affair, Naimur, the former Bangladesh captain, scored 57 as the popular Motijheel club, chasing 198 for victory reached home in the 18 balls Total: (For 9 wkts in 50 overs) 242 Fall of wickets: 1-13, 2-48, 3-70, 75, 5-153, 6-171, 7-217, 8-220, 231 Bowler Saiful

UTTARA SC

d defeat	Moniruzzaman c	S Mahmud	lbAsl	nia	17
o two	Nafis Ibw b S Mahmud			•	52
	Hafiz st Anwar b S Mahmud			Ę	51
e two Division	Sumon c S Ma	hmud b l	Enar	nul 3	36
iterday: on	Faisal c Javed b Enamul				3
	Rana not out				23
43 66 9 51 ir 23 20 17	Shafiul b Naimur				2
	Aslam st Anwar b Naimur				6
	Monirul not out				2
	Extras: (lb-3, w-3)				6
	Total: (For 7 wkts in 50 overs) 198				
	Fall of wickets: 1-21, 2-111, 3-143, 4-152, 5-178, 6-179, 7-196.				
3 ) 20	Bowler	0	Μ	R	w
) 252	Ashiq	10	1	35	1
, <b>3-151</b> ,	Monir	6	1	29	0
RW	Enamul	10	3	31	2
35 0	Naimur	8	0	32	2
42 1	SMahmud	10	0	41	2
61 1 48 0	Fahim	6	0	27	0
48 0 44 2	MOHAMMEDAN SC				
10 0	Javed c Faisal b Rabbani 5				
82 aman 8 8 16 2	Nafees c Moniruzzaman b Shafiul 31				
	Aftab b Rabbani 0				0
	Sanwar c Moniruzzaman b Rabbani 10				
	S Mahmud c Monirul b Rabbani 3				
37	Minhazul b Aslam				43
26	Naimur c & b Aslam				57
24 8	Fahimnotout				22
12	Enamul c Shafiul b Aslam				0
0	Ashiq not out 0				
19 ) 242 3-70, 4-	Extras: (b-4, lb-4, nb-1, w-19) 28				
	Total: (For 8 wkts in 46.1 overs) 199				
-220, 9-	Fall of wickerts: 1-6, 2-6, 3-30, 4-35, 5-64, 6-173, 7-173, 8-184.				

#### Zim slam Willey AFP, Harare

Zimbabwe Cricket Union (ZCU) officials on Monday reacted sharply to reports that English umpire Peter Willey did not want to travel to Bulawayo to officiate World Cup matches

AFP, Johannesburg

ing experience

it better.

Sky News reported that Willey, a former Test batsman, had requested the International Cricket Council (ICC) to change his Zimbabwe schedule where he is due to officiate the February 24 game against Australia and be the third umpire for the February 28 match featuring the Netherlands.

England forfeited their game in Harare for security reasons and Willey wanted to do the same, Sky News said. ZCU chief executive Vince Hogg

was livid at the latest controversy to hit the World Cup. "Just what is the matter with

these people, I ask?," Hogg told AFP. "I am at the hotel where all the

teams stay and where the Indians are at the moment. "Security here and at both our

grounds is extremely tight. Willey has absolutely no need to worry on that account, nor any one else. "I would tell him bluntly: just talk to your High Commission here.

Happy hitting Wasim for four

#### AFP, Kimberley

Namibia's Rudolph van Vuuren insists scoring a boundary off Pakistani veteran Wasim Akram is as big an honour as representing his country in both the rugby and cricket

"Its an honour to play in both the World Cups, but hitting a boundary off one of my idols is a moment I will always cherish," Vuuren told AFP on Monday.

profession who treats AIDS patients across his homeland, hit one of seven boundaries in Namibia's 82 all out during Sunday's 171-run

"I will tell my children that I hit a boundary off the great bowler and they will also enjoy it," he said.

Cup in England four years ago and is almost certain to win a place in the Namibian team for the next one in Australia in October this year.

## WC for the taking

ICC Cricket World Cup South Africa 2003

REUTERS, Johannesburg New Zealand captain Stephen **Tough-talking Nasser** like "wholehearted" is simply a which has 18 teams taking part in ICC Cricket World Cup euphemism for "tries hard but not four domestic competitions - results

very good". Nor is it the first time that Hussain, a batsman, has pointed out the shortcomings in his own attack by referring to the opposi-Being an England bowler under tion's strenaths.

Nasser Hussain must be a dispirit-Indeed so often has Hussain berated England's lack of a "mys-Whatever you do, the captain is ery" spinner, such as Sri Lanka's always ready to remind you there's Muttiah Muralitharan, it is a wonder somebody in another side who does Ashley Giles, England's lone slow man for most of his captaincy, has He was at it again after England's any self-confidence left. six wicket World Cup win over The

But while it may not do much for



JAMES ANDERSON

spines?

might be the answer.

that launched their tournament after the current attack's morale, the they boycotted Thursday's schedpoint behind Hussain's comments is uled opener against Zimbabwe. worth considering. Why don't Rookie paceman James England have a bowler who sends

Anderson took four for 25 but England's failure to dismiss the European minnows inside 50 overs - they batted out to reach 142 for nine - provoked Hussain to say: "We lack a killer player like Brett Lee but we do have great discipline."

Talk about damning with faint praise, although perhaps a failure to take 10 Dutch wickets deserves nothing more.

Even so, they are hardly inspiring words. "Great discipline", rather England is the only major nation

had to make a mark at a World Cup.

"I haven't had great perfor-

New Zealand, on eight points,

are second on run rate in Pool B

behind Sri Lanka. They lost to the

mances at a World Cup in the past

and this was my day."

African treats

game

FROM PAGE 13 Zealand. " The two teams that I've worked with are having a torrid time in this competition," lamented the bespectacled mind-doctor before hurrying off to his room.

The right-hander ran about ten

ball slipped out the bowler's grip and

sat invitingly for Khan outside the

pitch. Many other batsmen might

have decided against playing at it to

uphold the spirit of the gentlemen's

Although Khan's action is

An opinion poll in a local TV

channel however found Khan

overwhelming winner with a 111-14

New Zealand great Richard

Hadlee, one of the speakers in the

show, also called it perfectly alright

acceptable in cricket law, critics in

South Africa wanted to portray it as a

controversial' incident.

result in his favour.

shivers down the opposition's

Pitches, players and priorities

Too many English surfaces offer

assistance to medium-paced bowl-

ers who, although predominate in

county cricket are rarely as suc-

cessful on the more batsmen

friendly tracks they usually encoun-

And the sheer volume of cricket -

ter in the international arena.

**KHAN'S MOMENT** 

while reminding the anti-cricket incident of the 'underarm ball' bowled by Australian Trevor Chappell against the Kiwis in 1981.

"If we do manage to squeak

"I don't think we've been playing

A television show run by a private

South African broadcaster on

Monday was inundated by com-

plaints about selection and the

performance of South Africa's

oowlers, with veteran Allan Donald

in particular, coming in for criticism.

Few were looking for excuses

even though New Zealand, already

in a winning position, had their task

made easier by a rain delay and a

The Star's front sports page, did

take the easy option. "The rules are

One fan, however, quoted on

revised target.

crap," he said.

through by the skin of our teeth we

believe we can turn it around.

anywhere near our best cricket.

#### Aftershocks

FROM PAGE 13 the Bangladesh match on Television. As I write, I see the Ten

0'Clock News with a computer-

generated message at the bottom

proudly stating, "NZ wins by 9

wickets". I am sure that at the

moment many other cricket-lovers

like me, not blessed with Set Max or

Ten Sports, are highly irritated by

that message, for they would rather

have watched the ending of the

match than be told about it. After all,

isn't that the purpose of having

television coverage? Would it have

made a great difference if this news

programme was delayed by just

fifteen minutes to let the viewers see

New Zealand wrap up the match?

Does the news programme serve

any purpose other than inflate the

egos of our national leaders? If BTV

wishes to cover this World Cup, they

should do so with total commitment.

not a little bit here and a little bit

-- Asif, Dhaka

# World Cups.

1 The 30-year-old, a doctor by 2 2 2

defeat here.

Vuuren played rugby's World

#### Aussies class

FROM PAGE 13 security worries, began with a sixwicket win over the Netherlands in

East London on Sunday. James Anderson, a 20-vear-old playing second XI cricket only a year ago and only in the team because of injuries, produced the best World Cup bowling performance by an Englishman for 20 years as he took four for 25.

Even here, however, there was an Australian shadow.

"We lacked a bit of a killer punch · obviously we haven't got a Brett Lee," captain Nasser Hussain said, referring to the Australian strike bowler.

The only man to rival Lee's speed is Shoaib Akhtar of Pakistan.

He fed on real minnows on Sunday by taking four for 46 against Namibia in Kimberley, while Wasim Akram took five for 28.

Pool A strugglers Namibia were routed for 84 - the fourth lowest World Cup score ever and coming six days after the Namibians had conceded 340 against Zimbabwe, the fourth highest total recorded in tournament history.

Namibia skipper Deon Kotze ended the day defending his team's right to be playing in the tournament, along with the likes of the Netherlands, Kenya, Canada and even Bangladesh.

"I don't think cricket can grow globally if it's kept to a select group of 10 or 11 or 12 teams." he said.

Many people may already be thinking that cricket cannot grow globally if it's kept to a select club of



GrameenPhone Premier Cricket League **Biman v City Club** Venue: FCS Abahani v Young Pegasus Venue: BKSP Surjo Tarun v BCB Dev Squad Venue: BNS

Naimur a six Nuruzzaman boundaries in his 61-ball knock. Razzak Skipper Minhazul Abedin gave him good support with a 64-ball 41.

Shahriar Nafis (52) and one-down Hafiz (51), scored 198 for seven in the allotted 50 overs. It was Mohammedan's fourth win five matches that helped them move to second position with 24

Masudur Manzarul Earlier, put into bat, Uttara, riding Sabbir Wasim Result: Victoria SC won by runs. Mohammedan SC v Uttara SC

Venue: FCS

## **Deadly Flower**

around.

## ICC Cricket World Cup

**REUTERS**, Harare

Zimbabwe's Andy Flower will get another opportunity to demonstrate his liking for Indian bowling attacks when the teams meet on

Wednesday in World Cup Pool A. The 34-year-old left-hander has an extraordinary record against India, and a match-winning performance by Zimbabwe's most prolific

batsman would almost certainly seal a second round place for the tournament co-hosts. Zimbabwe crushed Cup debu-

tants Namibia in their opening game and their tally increased to a maximum eight points when they were awarded the match against England.

The long-running England controversy kept an unwanted spotlight on the Zimbabwe team, but they now have an excellent opportunity to qualify for the Super Sixes along with world champions Australia. That scenario would

mean early elimination for two of India, Pakistan and England missing out. Flower's record against India is

remarkable. He averages 41.16 against them in one-day internationals, around six

runs higher than his overall average, and a massive 94.83 in nine Tests. In late 2000, he made succes-

sive Test scores of 183 not out, 70, 55 and 232 not out in India, completely mastering the hosts' muchvaunted spinners

Although India beat Zimbabwe by 14 runs in the Champions Trophy last September, Flower made a superb 145 from 164 balls and he also top-scored with an unbeaten 68 when Zimbabwe edged out India by three runs in a dramatic World Cup game in England four years ago

Fast bowler Henry Olonga took the last player they would want to three wickets in the final over of that see walking out to bat against them is Andy Flower. game to seal that victory, but it

who made a relatively modest 39 against Namibia, and Olonga will be Kenya focused enough to repeat their heroics at the Harare Sports Club demand Flower and Olonga, the first black cricketer to play for points Zimbabwe, wore black armbands

Bowler

Rabban

Sumon

Shafiul

Faisal

Monirul

Aslam

two wickets.

3

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0

0

10

Debabrata

throughout the Namibia game after **REUTERS**, Nairobi making a scathing criticism of the

> Kenyan cricket chiefs will demand the points from their World Cup Pool B match against New Zealand, which their opponents want switched to South Africa because of security concerns.

New Zealand have asked for the game on February 21 to be moved from Nairobi as they are worried about the team's safety following a November terrorist attack in the coastal resort of Mombasa that killed 16 people

"As far as we are concerned, we simply want our four points. There should be no question of moving the match to another venue," said Sharad Ghai, the chairman of the World Cup Organising Committee in Kenya, on Sunday.

"We have upgraded the security to befit any visiting head of state, were dismissed by the part-timers including the American president. All this has been confirmed by the security agency advising the International Cricket Council (ICC). Sri Lanka have said they will after the Australian humiliation that honour their Pool B fixture in Nairobi he was clueless about how to revive on February 24, the only other The Indian players are involved World Cup match scheduled to take place in Kenva.

in their own off-field controversy World Cup organisers refused to over the tournament's ambush marketing rules and, already the switch England's game against Zimbabwe in Harare on February subject of heavy criticism back 13. awarding the points to the hosts home from the media and millions of passionate cricket fans, the presafter weeks of wrangling between the International Cricket Council sure is really on them to junite their (ICC) and the England Wales In such circumstances, probably Cricket Board (ECB).

Fleming said his side now believed Indies. they could win the World Cup after beating South Africa in Pool B on

Sunday "If you'd asked me that this morning there would have been a big sigh and an apprehensive or tentative yes," he said after the ninewicket win at the Wanderers.

But he added: "This team now believes it can win the World Cup.

"This has done a lot of good for us. You have to get two good wins and then put away the so-called minnows of your group to go through and I think we might have done enough (to qualify for the Super Sixes)."

Fleming scored a match-winning 134 not out on Sunday as New Zealand, who needed to win after refusing to play Kenya in Nairobi on security grounds, won with 13 balls to spare after chasing a rain-revised total of 226.

"It is the best of my career. I say that because there was a lot on the line," he added. "With the Kenva decision and the

must-win situation in the last two games I really felt that as captain I

### Fleming no fool

FROM PAGE 13 good reminder to me that I had to bat

Fleming was born on April's Fool Day, but he can make rival captains appear fools when it comes to tactics and man management. No wonder, Australian leg-spin magician Shane Warne has called him the best captain in the world.

has said New Zealand is a team without stars who "always seem to plav well against us" New Zealand in fact have been

to 1996 champions Sri Lanka.

Observers believe that credit force in international cricket.

New Zealand's stock has been rising steadily since Fleming took over the captaincy from Lee Germon in 1996-97 at the age of 23. His main contribution, experts feel, is to make his team regain its selfbelief Fleming's best moment came at

UNDER THE SUN Sri Lankans earlier but beat West Pakistan batsman Younis Khan

received special mention against South Africa have four points Namibia not for his stroke-play but from three games after losing to for a freakish incident. West Indies in their opener before beating Kenya. West Indies have four points from two games and play vards away from his wicket and smashed a delivery for four through Bangladesh on Tuesday. mid-off. The problem was that the

Vintage venom

FROM PAGE 16 'It's the World Cup. You can't just take it easier against the so-called weaker teams, you have to treat every game seriously.

"I'm very motivated and so is the team. We're here to do win the World Cup."

Namibia were in danger of falling for the lowest total in one-day internationals when they slipped to 35-8, before Biorn Kotze and Rudi van Vuuren added 42 for the last wicket.

Namibia's 84 in 17.4 overs was the fourth lowest total in World Cup history, but far superior to Canada's record low of 45 against England during the 1979 edition.

Earlier opener Salim Elahi topscored for Pakistan with 63.

FROM PAGE 13 Ramnaresh Sarwan BANGLADESH (from): Khaled Mashud (captain), Al Shahriar, Alok Kapali, Ehsanul Haque, Sanwar Hossain, Khaled Mahmud, Manjurul Islam, Mohammad Ashraful,

Mohammad Rafique, Talha Jubair, Taposh Baisya, Tushar Imran Umpires: Russell Tiffin (Zim) and Brian Jerling (Rsa) TV Umpire: Billy Bowden (Nzl) Match referee: Gundappa Viswanath (Ind)

#### FORM GUIDE

Lara the unmerciful

there.

AFP. Benoni

Recent matches played by West Indies and Bangladesh ahead of their World Cup Group B clash here on Tuesday: West Indies (won 5, lost 4, NR 1) Feb 13 2003 lost to New Zealand by 20 runs Port Elizabeth Feb92003 bt South Africa by 3 runs Cape Town Dhaka Dec 3 2002 bt Bangladesh by 86 runs Dec 2 2002 bt Bangladesh by 84 runs Dhaka Nov 29 2002 No Result Chittagong bt India by 135 runs Nov 24 2002 Vijayawada Nov 21 2002 lost to India by 3 wickets Jodhpur Nov 18 2002 bt India by 5 wickets Baroda Nov 15 2002 lost to India by 5 wickets Ahmedabad Nov 12 2002 lost to India by 81 runs Raikot Bangladesh (v on 0 lost 9 NR 1) lost to Sri Lanka by 10 wickets Feb 14 2003 Pietermaritzburg Feb 11 2003 lost to Canada by 60 runs Durban Dec 3 2002 lost to West Indies by 86 runs Dhaka Dec 2 2002 lost to West Indies by 84 runs Dhaka Nov 29 2002 v West Indies NR Chittagong lost to South Africa by 7 wickets Kimberley Oct 9 2002 lost to South Africa by 168 runs Potchefstroom Oct 3 2002 lost to South Africa by 10 wickets Benoni Oct 2 2002 lost to New Zealand by 167 runs Colombo Sept 23 2002 Sept 9 2002 lost to Australia by 9 wickets Colombo

through."

Australian captain Steve Waugh

playing well against all the teams of late although their campaign here got off to a poor start when they lost

aces to Fleming for transforming a team of honest triers into a major

Nairobi in Kenya in 2000 when his team beat India in the final of the

ICC Trophy for their first major international success in the shorter version of the game Waugh was at the receiving end

of Fleming's calculated planning last year when his team failed to qualify for a triangular one-day series final also involving South Africa for the third time since the contest began in 1979-80.

Fleming, though playing within rules, was accused of undermining the "spirit of the game" when he handed a bonus point to South Africa in order to make Australia's task more difficult in the last league game.

The 29-year-old left-hander is not as big a batsman as India's Sachin Tendulkar or West Indian Brian Lara, but is capable of rising to the occasion with his bold and courageous stroke-play.

Mashrafee FROM PAGE 13

Bangladesh captain. Mashud also said that he might promote himself up the order to give more stability to the brittle batting line-up