

Proteas

FROM PAGE 16

However, the match will take place against a background of heightened security with more police on duty at the game taking place at the Wanderers ground here.

Only the final on Sunday and the second semifinal at Durban remain to be played in the six-week long World Cup.

"Everything is on track and the World Cup final goes ahead as planned," said Rodney Hartman, the World Cup organising committee's communications director.

"There are no plans to change the schedule but the match will take place with a heightened security awareness.

More police will be present at the final and semifinal, but there are no plans at present to post soldiers at the two venues.

"There will be an increased awareness of security in both the public and private sectors," added Hartman.

The winners of Thursday's day-night semifinal between India and Kenya will face defending champions Australia in Sunday's final.

Wanderman

FROM PAGE 16

In the run-up to the tournament, one of the sponsors ran a television advertisement featuring "Chris Scott" and how his dream of having the six-week tournament being played in South Africa came true.

The only problem was that the groundsman wasn't Scott he is played by an actor chosen by the advertising company, much to the real Scotty's chagrin.

But recognition does come in the strangest ways.

A personal highlight was three years ago when, after only one day of play during a rain-drenched Test against New Zealand, he was appointed man of the match.

"It's probably the only time ever a groundsman has been awarded that particular honour," said Scott. But the World Cup has been the

highlight "For 32 years I have waited for a World Cup final to be played here. The final is the be-all and end-all of cricket. The pressure on a groundsman is immense to do it right," he said.

"For me its a dream and a nightmare come true."



GrameenPhone Premier Cricket League Indira Road KC v Biman Venue: FCS AbahanivOrient SC

Vintage Shahriar sees off City

Spanish fiesta, English

Patrick Kluivert, his 29th goal in the

competition, and Thiago Motta

showed striker Craig Bellamy the

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

An unbeaten half-century from opener Shahriar Hossain guided Brothers Union Club to a comprehensive eight-wicket win over high flying City Club in the lone GrameenPhone Premier Cricket League clash at the BKSP ground yesterday.

Chasing a moderate 170 in a reduced 40-over match, Shahriar, the former Bangladesh opener smashed an undefeated 75 to see his side reach the winning mark in 36.1 overs with eightwickets to spare. Shahriar hammered one six and

even boundaries in his patient 102all knock.

Earlier, put into bat, City Club's 170 was built around two fifties from Rajin b Sohel Hasanlbwb captain Faruque Ahmed and the Jamaluddin run out prolific young man from Mymensingh Md Moniruzzaman Kadirrunout Alamgirnotout Opener Faruque scored 54 off 56 with a six and half a dozen of fours Sajib b Sohel 1

Tareqc&bMosaddek while Moniruzzaman also scored 54 off94 ball with only two boundaries. Saifullah run out

It was City Club's third defeat in eleven matches. They are now jointly sharing the second spot along with Mohammedan Sporting Club and Abahani with each having 44 points.	Extras: (b-3, nb-1, w-5) 9 Total: (All out in 38.4 overs) 170 Fall of wickets: 1-0, 2-82, 3-94, 4-132, 5-139, 6-152, 7-160, 8-162, 9-167.				
Mohammedan have finished their	Bowler	0	М	R	W
first round campaign while Abahani and City Club have one match in	Shahnewaz	7.4	1	30	1
hand.	Iqbal	8	0	33	0
On the other hand, it was Brothers	Sadab	5	0	30	0
Union's fifth win against six defeats	Sohel	8	1	27	3
that raised their tally to 26 points.	Mosaddek	8	0	33	2
SCOREBOARD	Mahbub	2	10	14	0
Scoreboard of the GrameenPhone	BROTHERS UNION				
Premier Division Cricket League match between Brothers Union and	Salauddin retired hurt 15				
CityClub at BKSP yesterday:	Shahriarnotout			75	
CITYCLUB	Shamimul cAlar	ngirb	Saifu	llah 3	1
AKapoorcShamimulbShahnewaz 0	SadablbwbJam	aluddi	n	2	26
Faruque cHalim b Sadab 54	Mahbubnotout				10
Moniruzzaman c Shamimul b Sohel 54	Extras: (lb-4, nb-	4, w-6)		1	4
RajinbSohel 3	Total: (For2wktsin36.1 overs) 171				
HasanlbwbMosaddek 24	Fall of wickets: 1-85, 2-148.				

2

9

10

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2

Bowler

Alamgir

Tareq

Saifullah

AKapoor

Jamaluddin

More agony for Neeyamur

SPORTS REPORTER

Sport

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6.1

Things turned from bad to worse for Neeyamur Rashid yesterday when match-referee Belayed Hossain slapped the Abahani all-rounder with a one-match ban a day after Jahangir Alam Talukder struck him with a bat

Belayed also did not spare Talukder for his barbaric act during a GrameenPhone Premier League match between Abahani and Indira Road Krira Chakra at the Fatullah Stadium on Wednesday.

3 Talukder, the Indira Road captain, 0 33 2 was banned for four matches. Belayet however took the action

without holding a customary hearing. Neeyamur was punished for provoking Talukder, a former nationalleft-arm paceman. Doctors confirmed that

Neevamur had not broken his arm as initiallyfeared. Meanwhile, Abahani has lodged

an appeal to the CCDM against the suspension of its key player.

AIUB-Pepsi Cup cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

Stamford University Bangladesh (SUB) recorded an eight-wicket victory over Manarat International University (MIU) in the AIUB-Pepsi Cup inter-university cricket tournament at the Dhanmondi

Cricket Club on Wednesday. Batting first, MIU scored 117 runs all out in 28.1 overs.

In reply, SUB made 118 losing two wickets in 16 overs. In other match of the day, Brac University defeated Darul Ihsan University by 60 runs at the Mirpur

Brilliant Bichel

"He has got a very sound technique, can hit good cricket shots and also boundaries late in an innings, which are vital in this form

rely on him to face a few overs and get us through or to go in and hit a few over the fence

Queensland teammate Symonds was another who gave due credit to Bichel after their partnership against Sri Lanka "When Andy came out to bat I just

treated him like a normal batsman," he said, after Bichel again made a mockery of his place at number nine in the order.

know his worth. "We have seen him play good cricket shots and hit balls out of the the team than Bichel and that alone ground at crucial stages of a game.

is one reason why there will be particular joy among the tour party if he gets the chance to hold up that World "He is a calming and steadying influence late in the innings for players who are already in and he is Čup this weekend.



GM Ziaur Rahman (L) makes a move against IM Abdullah Al Rakib during their sixth United Insurance and United Leasing Grand Masters' Chess Tournament yesterday.

Zia shares title

Chess

SPORTS REPORTER

Grand Master Ziaur Rahman shared the glory with fellow GMs Sergey Tiviakov and Marat Dzhumaev in the sixth United Insurance Grand Masters tournament that ended at the Bangladesh Chess Federation Auditorium yesterday.

Zia, the second Grand Master of the country after Niaz Murshed, won his final game against International Master Abdullah Al Rakib to finish on equal points with Tiviakov and Dzhumaev.

Dutch GM Tiviakov, who is the top-ranked player in the 13-round meet, and Dzhumaev of Uzbekistan locked horns on the final day knowing that a victory would guarantee of one of them the title.

the leaders with eight points. He But they fought out a draw to shared the fourth and fifth spot with eventually end up sharing the crown Alexander Golochcapov with Zia. All three players finished Niaz Murshed had a mixed bag in with nine points to share the 2,300 dollars prize-money. the meet collecting seven points.

one bloke you don't need to worry

Bichel has been claiming wickets

Queensland for more than a

his current success even sweeter, for

mates and support staff, who all

Few players are more popular in

Few expected Kenya to come this

the man himself and also his team-

about.

at first-class level for

more elusive.

Captaincy a curse

FROM PAGE 13

Olonga into retirement and that he Cronje, who was killed in a plane would battle on at the head of his crash last year, received a life ban team which was dogged by political controversy throughout the World from cricket in 2000 after being found guilty of corruption charges. Cup. England's Hussain advocated the

decade and did the same for two seasons with English county team "I will keep going as long as my body allows. I love my country, I love my job, I'll keep going," said Streak after Flower and Olonga slipped into However, despite making his international debut back in 1996-97, international retirement and exile, success at that higher level proved both fearing for their safety if they returned home following their black The fact Bichel has had to work armband, anti-Robert Mugabe harder and longer than some other players to gain recognition will make

Hussain said protests Pollock blamed the legacy of "You have to talk about injuries, disgraced former skipper Cronje for his sacking, although he vowed to play on under new captain Graeme opposing players, about the International Cricket Council, the ECB, about political issues like Smith Zimbabwe

"Splitting the captaincy would help me if I was asked to stay on as "Ever since the Hansie issue there's been an effort to make sure Test captain and it would also help the captain wasn't given too much power and shared responsibility was the approach they wanted," Pollock the new one-day skipper settle into the job.

Gillette's 'lucky eleven'World **Cup bound**

The Daily Star

SPORTS REPORTER

PHOTO: STAR

It was a very good tournament for Zia after his outstanding performance

Tiviakov also lived up to his

reputation after a shaky start. But

Dzhumaev must be disappointed for

failing to deliver the knockout punch

after the leading the standings until

Reefat followed it up with yet

another big win against Uzbek GM

in the Chess Olympiad last year.

the eleventh round.

Alexi Barsov.

claimed 10th spot.

Eleven cricket fans, who were lucky winners of the Gillette "go to the final' quiz contest, will fly off to South Africa today to witness the World Cup final in Johannesburg on March 23.

The contest was held through coupons that were attached to Gillete products.

The eleven winners will be representing Bangladesh during the final. They will wear the Bangladesh national cricket team's jersey and carry the national flag at the Wanderers Stadium. They will go on a sight seeing tour of South Africa after the final and are expected to return to Dhaka on March 25.

The eldest of the eleven is 63-year-old Jainul Abedin from Dhaka. The rest are: Al Mamun from Chapainawabganj, Shahadat Hossain, AH Shahabuddin, Mustaqul Alam, Rabiul Hasnat and Imroze Hasan from Dhaka, Shaheduzzaman of Rajshahi Delwar Hossain of Tangail, Shafiqul Haque Sufi of Comilla and

Nazmul Hasan of Chittagong. Dzhumaev suffered a decisive blow when International Master They will be accompanied by Reefat-bin Sattar ended his Gillete Bangladesh's country unbeaten tag in the penultimate round on Wednesday. manager Monishi Ghosh.

Olonga

FROM PAGE 16 But it was too little and too late for his club in Zimbabwe for his stand, the talented player to make any said cricket remained his passion. serious challenge in the race. He finished with sixth points and "If I have the opportunity to go

back to a Zimbabwe that respected human rights and upheld freedom I probably would like to go back The defeat also dashed Barsov's title chance after closely following and play.'

But he added he had "bad associations" with the game after recent events, adding: "Maybe it would be wise for me to take a short

Australian policy of having separate Test and one-day captains to lessen

the increased pressure which goes

tions about so many thinks apart from yourself and England's cricket,"

before he was injured," he said.

"Shane and Jason sent us texts

"The reality though is that they

"We have taken a step closer with

and faxes on Tuesday to wish us all

the best and it would be nice to have

are not here and the 15 guys we have

got here are working towards the

same goal of winning the World Cup.

our win over Sri Lanka and there will

be a few disappointed guys when the

side for the final is selected. But they

Quips & Quotes

Batsman Darren Lehmann on

"I've no intention of giving up the

India skipper Sauray Ganguly

will all be happy if we play well."

"On tour you have so many ques-

with the job.

eral chances extending his goalless streak to nine matches. Inter took care of Leverkusen with goals from promising Nigerian striker Obafemi Martins and City Club ground. Turkish ace Emre to secure their

place and give boss Hector Cuper hopes of at last securing European club football's most prestigious prize after two losing finals with Valencia.

For Leverkusen it rounded off a desperate campaign which left them with the unwanted statistic of being the only side to ever finish the second phase with no points.

Van der Meyde's lightning fast goal for Ajax knocked the stuffing out of Roma, and though they managed to level they were unable to score the goal that would have given them a chance of making the last eight and their exit will only add to the pressure on boss Fabio Capello, who tasted European glory with the great AC Milan side of the early 90's.

No war break FROM PAGE 16

on our backs saying 'We're Americans. Come bomb us,'" Oakland pitcher Tim Hudson said.

mourning CHAMPS LEAGUE

AFP, Paris

Spain had a red letter night in the Champions League on Wednesday but their ecstasy was English misery as Barcelona and Valencia extinguished Newcastle and Arsenal's hopes of making the last eight.

Arsenal's 2-1 Group B defeat in Valencia came thanks to a double by Norwegian international striker John Carew, the same man who ended their hopes two years ago in the quarter-finals, and extended their winless drought in all compe-

titions to four matches Arsenal, who have only made the last eight once in five campaigns, saw their last hope of sneaking in disappear as Dutch

side Aiax confirmed their vouthful promise by holding AS Roma 1-1 in Rome, Andy van der Meyde scoring in the first minute, to progress while the Italian giants exited.

Newcastle's 2-0 defeat at home to Barcelona in Group A confirmed the end of their great adventure

this season. **INTERNET,** Kingston lowever even victory over club formerly managed by their The West Indies selection panel is boss Bobby Robson wouldn't have meeting Friday to pick a West mattered a jot as Inter Milan beat Indies captain for the forthcoming ailing Champions League finalists Cable and Wireless Series against Bayer Leverkusen 2-0 to reach the Australia quarter-finals. Selector Joey Carew said on Carew's double either side of a Thursday that selection chairman trademark goal by Thierry Henry Vivian Richards is convening a propelled the Spanish side into top spot in the group and ended a winless run of five matches in all meeting Friday for the panel to decide on their nomination for competitions and handed Arsenal captaincy. manager Arsene Wenger a salutary The panel will give the board its lesson in not opening ones mouth recommendation after Friday's before the season is over. meeting.

way to take your chances as the Magpies Welsh star spurned sev-STANDINGS

European Champions League tables after Wednesday's final second phase games (Played, won, drawn, lost, for, against, points):

6 1 5 0 6 5 8

The issue of the West Indies

team captaincy has sparked great

discussion in the past week after

the team's first-round exit from the

World Cup and pronouncements

by regular captain Carl Hooper that

Hooper, who had a miserable

World Cup, scoring a mere 99 runs

in six innings at an average of 19.80,

was urged by Richards to stay on as

team captain and the 36-year-old

Guyanese is now at his Australian

in the semifinal, claimed 17 vic-

"I thought our bowlers did well

throughout the tournament and I

was pleased with that," said

is hit for some runs in a particular

he was considering retirement.

Barcelona 6 5 1 0 12 2 16 6 3 2 1 11 8 11 Newcastle 6 2 1 3 10 13 7 Leverkusen 6 0 0 6 5 15 0 *(Barcelona and Inter Milan qualifyforthequarter-finals)

GROUP B

GROUPA

Inter

Valencia 6 2 3 1 5 6 9 Aiax Arsenal 6 1 4 1 6 5 7 ASRoma 6 1 2 3 7 8 5

Windies pick a captain today

FROM PAGE 16 of the game.

"If we are ever in trouble you can Norcestershire.



ESPN

Follow Through Semifinal-2 WC Cricket Programme Repeat at 8:00 am Sportscentre Hindi Sport News Live at 8:30 pm

STAR Sports

Follow Through Semifinal-2 WC Cricket Programme Repeat at 7:30 am Futbol Mundial Repeat at 11:30 am Sportsline Tonight Sport News Live at 8:00 pm



Phone: (If any)

The Frenchman had opined earlier in the season his side was good enough to go unbeaten in all competitions and their exit will be all the sourer given that his bitter rival Manchester United's handler Alex Ferguson will take the only English representative into the last eight.

Two pieces of slack defending cost Newcastle dearly after a bright start had seen them take the game to Barcelona, who having already qualified, fielded an under strength side.

home resting his troublesome However goals from Dutch ace knees ahead of his return.

PonderingWhat-more

tims.

Whatmore.

FROM PAGE 13

happen here.

encouraging him.

Wanderers here on Sunday.

over.

1 April.

FROM PAGE 13

Both Whatmore and Jayasuriya were clear where Sri Lanka had gone wrong as the side finished with three defeats in four matches.

"We had some good positives over the last 10 games but if there was one area we could have done better it was our batting in the middle," the coach said.

"They just didn't give us enough runs from time to time and that was the case again against Australia.

"It was a little bit naughty they iust didn't give us consistent assistance when we needed it."

Middle-order batsmen Russell Arnold, Hashan Tillakaratne, Kumar Sangakkara and Mahela Javawardene scored one fifty between them in 28 innings. Jayawardene managed only 19 runs in seven innings.

Jayasuriya added: "Unfortunately some of the players have not performed well.

The captain and coach could at least console themselves with the performances of their two leading bowlers, left-arm seam and swing specialist Chaminda Vaas and offspinner Muttiah Muralitharan.

Vaas claimed 23 wickets, a new World Cup record, and also took a hattrick against Bangladesh while Muralitharan, although wicketless So far the only other global com-petition which has fallen victim to the situation in the Middle East has been the under-20 World Football Championship.

FIFA, world soccer's governing body, decided to postpone the event which had been scheduled for the United Arab Emirates from March 25 to April 16.

But FIFA have told Iraq they must play their 2004 Olympic qualifier against Vietnam next month at a neutral venue.

The United States Soccer Federation named a roster Tuesday for a March 29 friendly in Seattle against Japan, which had a friendly match three days earlier against Uruguay moved from San Jose to San Diego over security issues.

American football Europe play ers have been training in Florida with plans to fly across the Atlantic Ocean next week to National Football League Europe stadiums in Barcelona, Berlin, Glasgow, Amsterdam, Frankfurt and Dusseldorf.

Pybus no fan

FROM PAGE 16

others to maintain the standards that hesetshimself "He is a strong, principled man and I know that if he gets the job at a future date he will have laid down the ground rulesfirst

"Hecertainly will not tolerate prima donnas.

At different crossroads

FROM PAGE 16

not trying to go out," said Bond. Sri Lanka play in a triangular tournament against South Africa and Pakistan in Sharjah starting on "When you are up against quality bowling, the Lees and McGraths of this world, and they start taking wickets, that is just the way it goes. That's cricket. **Boycott for India**

Bond said he felt he had been bowling well even before the wick-You have lost overs as penalties when you were bowling first in a ets began tumbling his way in the last two Super Six games against Australia and India. couple of matches. That cannot

"I felt I was going to get a bag or run through a team, and a couple of "There is absolutely no need to days later the Australian game talk to the bowler after each delivery. It breaks his concentration. came along. I enjoy the challenge of Australia. Even though they are the best team in the world I think it Allow him to bowl freely even if he is a mind challenge, and that's "If your bowler is going through where people fall down against a bad phase, try the Aussie way of them

"The success I had in the VB series gave me a lot of confidence Ganguly said he would pay close and I just carry that into every game attention to Boycott's words of against them. I don't think they are advice and hoped he would "reanywhere near invincible, to be member everything" when he takes the field on Thursday. honest

"But because of the hype that they have in the media and put on If India beat Kenya, they clash with defending champions Australia in the final at the themselves, people can sometimes stand off against them. When you Aussies plan quick kill

innings.

Gwalior in 1998.

mattress

38 Witticism

39 Raced

enough there for the faster bowlers, with a bit of bounce and side-

ways movement. But Ponting said Australia, whose unbeaten run has now stretched to 16 games, had shown they can play well on any surface and they aimed to keep the momentum going for their third final in a row next two games.

Ponting's confidence is backed up by countryman Dav Whatmore, the coach of Sri Lanka, who saw his struggling team's semifinal hopes away by the rain at St George's Park on Tuesday.

"They're a confident side and them. their opponents will need to be equally as confident and back it far, having beaten three Test nations with the right skills," said 1996 champions Sri Lanka, Whatmore who had been hoping Zimbabwe and Bangladesh on the his team could upset the champiway. ons on the slow track of Port Elizabeth.

"They are a very good team at the moment."

reach Sunday's final and despite them making all the right noises Sunday.

India are still the favourites to

about respecting their opponents Kenya in the day-night semifinal at Kingsmead, they just can't resist the temptation to look ahead to

do that then I think you're stuffed, pretty much. You need to go harder and that's the attitude I have against them," said Bond. Lacking match practice because

was relying on experience to get him through the World Cup. "I think it showed. I got starts

wasn't there," said Cairns of his string of modest scores in vital matches.

live up to my own expectations. To get to the World Cup was a huge mountain for me to climb, with two knee operations and a kidney operation in the space of 12 months," said Cairns.

He made a Freudian slip when asked what he expected his role to

Richard Hadlee).

Cairns

Aussie fingers crossed

them here.

FROM PAGE 13

chipped in.

FROM PAGE 13

Coach John Wright, when asked right for the semifinal it would have Tuesday about star batsman been a very tough selection and it is Sachin Tendulkar's chances of not getting easier. becoming man of the tournament, said: "He's still got two games to

"It will not be easy to leave anyone play. They are very important out of a World Cup final because there are 15 guys in the room and 15 guys want to play, but unfortunately Off-spinner Harbhajan Singh there will be a few that miss out." added: "I feel I've still got a big performance in this tournament

Australia have now won all 10 of and hopefully it will happen in the their matches at this World Cup, an astonishing statistic considering they have been without champion India have not appeared in a World Cup final since they won the title for the only time in 1983 and leg-spinner Shane Warne for the whole tournament, while fast bowler time will tell if Harbhajan and Jason Gillespie returned home after Wright's words come back to haunt playing just three matches.

> Warne tested positive for a banned substance and has been banned from all cricket for 12 months while Gillespie broke down with a strained tendon in his left heel.

the secret of Australia's success. Ponting said that although the "For us to win we'll have to play pair were both now back in Australia. a few notches up and they'll have to play a few notches down," admitcaptaincy at any stage they had stayed in touch with the ted Asif Karim, who was Kenya's skipper when they beat India at squad.

raecting to speculation that he "We are thinking of them and was thinking of quitting after the World Cup. Shane Watson too, who was picked

CDOCC		DE		
CROSS	WORD	By Eugene	e Sheffer	
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maker	really	5 Map	27 Sternward	
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e.g.	see	11 Makes	36 Adipose	
18 Small	53 Confront	lace	tissue	
bag	54 Lair	17"—	37 The	
20 Fellows	55 Charon's	Rhythm"	mother's	
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sulking

46 Jet black

movie

Lemmon

48 Jack

CRYPTOQUIP

FKXOQ, IBZBYEOQ ΡB ЈКХ ΕS HUIB SAI ZUIZAF DKY XIUDBI. JB IBHAFBX ESP EJB OUSY ES Yesterday's Cryptoquip: HUMOROUS MOTTO THAT WAS POSTED ON A PODIATRIST'S DOOR: 'TIME WOUNDS ALL HEELS.'

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: S equals O

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

of his injuries. Cairns admitted he but shot selection and execution

"It was disappointing I didn't

be in Sri Lanka. "That's for the selectors. It's entirely up to the convenor and the paddle ah, the panel to decide," he said. (Paddles is the nickname of national selection convenor Sir

'It wasn't intentional," quipped

40 Appetite stimulus