#### **Real coming** to China in August

AFP, Beijing

The star-studded Spanish club Real Madrid will play a match against a Chinese side in Beijing on August 3 to commemorate the second anniversary of the capital winning the right to host the 2008 Olympic Games, a local paper reported Saturday.

The Spanish club has agreed to bring all its stars including Ronaldo, Luis Figo, Zinedine Zidane and Raul Gonzalez, the Beijing Morning Post

The match was announced Friday during a Beijing press conference.

The report did not mention the ongoing outbreak of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) which has spread worldwide from China and has been at the center of the cancellations of a series of political, economic, cultural and sporting events in China.

#### Sachin, Shaun top players

REUTERS, London

Latest PriceWaterhouseCoopers oneday international ratings after the Sharjah Cup tournament which

ended on Thursday:	
Batsman	Point
STendulkar	79
H Gibbs	77
R Ponting	76
S Jayasuriya	76
AGilchrist	75
M Hayden	75
M Bevan	74
YYouhana	73
R Sarwan	72
VSehwag	71
Bowler	Point
SPollock	90
GMcGrath	90
M Muralitharan	88
M Ntini	81
BLee	79
CVaas	79
WAkram	75
J Gillespie	75
SBond	74
JSrinath	74
Myanmar	blank
	Batsman STendulkar HGibbs R Ponting SJayasuriya AGilchrist M Hayden M Bevan YYouhana R Sarwan VSehwag Bowler S Pollock GMcGrath M Muralitharan M Ntini B Lee C Vaas W Akram J Gillespie S Bond

#### Miyaninar biank FROM PAGE 8

Mashrafee-bin-Mortuza, who is now making a steady recovery from injury, will play for City Club in place of rightarm seamer Tareq Aziz Khan who is now in the Bangladesh team.

City Club are in second position with 56 points, ten points adrift of leaders Victoria Sporting Club while Mohammedan and Abahani are on 50

Brothers share bottom place in the six-team super league table along with Uttara Sporting Club on 32 points.



#### **BTV**

India vs South Africa TVS Cup Tri-Series Live at 2:00 pm **ESPN** 

Western Union World Football Taped Version at 1:00 pm Australia vs West Indies First Test, Day Four Live at 8:00 pm

STAR Sports

India vs South Africa TVS Cup Tri-Series Live at 2:00 pm

The Daily Star

Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm April 25, 2003 and draw shortly afterwards

Who was the man-of-the tournament in the Cricket

World Cup? Tendulka: Ganguly Lee

2. Who was the man-of-the-match in the World Cup final

Bichel Ponting 3 What was the lowest score in the

World Cup? What was the highest score in the World Cup?

359 345

Phone: (If any) . . . . . . . . . . . . .

Zealand at Brisbane in 1993-94 (24v, 105d) Class. . . . . . Roll No. . . . . . 

9. Ian Botham (England) v West Indies at Leeds in 1980 (24y, 186d) 10.Craig McMillan (N Zealand) v Sri Lanka at Sharjah in 2000-01 (24y, 209d)



### Premiership

## **MU devastate Magpies**

#### Football

AFP, Newcaestle

Manchester United blew Newcastle's lingering title hopes out of the water with a stunning six-goal display at St James Park on Saturday.

A hat-trick from the inspirational Paul Scholes, goals from Ole Gunnar Solskjaer and Ryan Giggs and a Ruud van Nistelrooy penalty saw United romp to a 6-2 victory that lifts them three points clear of Arsenal going into Wednesday's Highbury showdown.

The blitzing of a Newcastle team that had not lost a home league match since September was the perfect response from United to their own Champions League drubbing at the hands of Real Madrid in the Champions League. It also ensured that, after last week's

4-0 thrashing of Liverpool, United are now only one goal behind Arsenal in terms of goal difference.

Cruelly for the expectant Newcastle crowd, United's rampage came after with a spectacular opening goal.

The young England midfielder lashed home a 25-yard drive after Fabien Barthez had beaten out Craig

Bellamy's left-foot volley. But the home side's hopes of a late title surge were crushed in a 12-minute blitz before half-time in which United struck four times.

Solskjaer, playing in midfield because of a hamstring injury to David Beckham, started things off by springing the Newcastle offside trap to chest down a Giggs cross before hooking a left-foot shot past Shay Given.

Two minutes later, the Norwegian turned provider with a neat return pass for Scholes that was finished off with an emphatic volley.

Newcastle's defence was looking increasingly dishevelled and it was no surprise when Giggs cut into the box from the left to set up Scholes's second, a sweely struck right-foot drive from the edge of the area that curled away from Given and up into the top corner

Irish defender John O'Shea, playing in Gary Neville's right-back slot, dembefore the break. After skipping past two Newcastle defenders he drove a ferocious shot across the crossbar and Giggs

hammered in the rebound. Any hopes the Newcastle faithful might have entertained of a miraculous fightback were snuffed out seven min-

utes after the break. Titus Bramble's weak headed clearance fell straight to Diego Forlan, whose pass to Solskjaer was flicked on to

the overlapping Gary Neville A low cross left Scholes with a simple finish at the far post to complete his hat-

Bramble's miserable afternoon was then compounded when he pulled Forlan down in the box, handing van Nistelrooy the chance to send Given the wrong way for his 36th goal of the sea-

What would otherwise have been the perfect afternoon was marred slightly for United when a weak clearance from Barthez enabled Jenas to set up Shola Ameobi for a consolation strike for the home side, two minutes from the end.

United fans will be hoping their

The second semi-final is another

The south coast club caused one of

team's performance is more impressive

Premiership against First Division clash

with Southampton taking on Watford at

the great Cup upsets when, as a member

of the old Second Division, they beat

Manchester United 1-0 to win the

## Doubt over Zim's tour

#### Cricket

**AFP,** Harare

Zimbabwe's scheduled ten-week cricket tour of England and Ireland, due to start in 19 days time, has still not been approved by the Mugabe government's Sports and Recreation Commission

The decision whether to allow the tour to go ahead rests with this body, which formally approves or refuses permission for all sports tours overseas of whatever discipline, including up to Olympic Games squads.

The Zimbabwe Cricket Union is increasingly anxious about the delay. Chief executive Vincent Hogg said:

'We are becoming very concerned. The squad is due to fly to London on April 29 but we haven't received the Sports Commission's approval yet, and there is so much to do. ZCU general manager Ian Robinson

confirmed Thursday that a decision whether they have permission to send a team to England and Ireland had not been received.

He said the application was formally submitted to the SRC several weeks ago. "It was certainly timely," he said

Drakes removed Ponting, who offered

a sharp catch to Marlon Samuels at slip

to finish his 289-minute stay at the

crease, punctuated with 18 bound-

Just when the West Indians had an

encouraging middle session taking

three wickets and then removing 157-

Test record-breaker Steve Waugh for

25 soon after tea, Gilchrist blasted away

in typical fashion to push the

and two sixes in his 146 minutes at the

crease, added 85 runs off 83 balls for the

seventh wicket with Andy Bichel (39) to

take the initiative away from the home

match, has a batting average of 58.52.

Drakes, the 33-year-old Barbados fast

bowler, finished with 5-93 off 26.1

overs on a heartbreaking pitch for

bowlers and was clearly the best of the

Scoreboard at stumps on the second

day of the first cricket Test between

Australia and the West Indies at the

Singing the Smith

FROM PAGE 8
"In the World Cup, the pressure got on

to us. Our top players, including Kallis,

did not strike. It was a major disap-

1. Waqar Younis (Pakistan) v West

Indies at Sharjah in 1993-94 (21y, 354d)

2. Sachin Tendulkar (India) v Sri Lanka

3. Javed Miandad (Pakistan) v West

Indies at Karachi in 1980-81 (23y, 162d)

4. Moin Khan (Pakistan) v India at

5. Kapil Dev (India) v Sri Lanka at

6. Alistair Campbell (Zimbabwe) v

Australia at Colombo in 1996-97 (23y,

7. Stephen Fleming (N Zealand) v Sri

Lanka at Christchurch in 1996-97 (23y,

8. Hansie Cronie (S Africa) v New

at Sharjah in 1996-97 (23y, 126d)

Sharjah in 1994-95 (23y, 196d)

Amritsar in 1982-83 (23y, 249d)

YOUNGEST ONE-DAY CAPTAINS

Caribbean quicks.

**SCOREBOARD** 

Bourda Oval on Friday:

Gilchrist, playing in his 40th Test

Gilchrist, who crashed nine fours

Australians well past a 200-run lead.

All arrangements for the lengthy tour are in place in England and Ireland. It England, at Lord's and at Durham, several matches against Counties, two games in Ireland and a triangular oneday series against England and South

Revenues from the tour would go a long way towards the further development of cricket here.

Africa, which ends mid-July.

Optimistically, the Zimbabwe national selection committee is nevertheless expected to come up with a 16man squad and its management on Monday next week as part of the many preparations that have to be undertaken The union's concerns are high

because England boycotted their cricket

World Cup fixture in Harare on February

13, the players claiming that the

Zimbabwe capital city was unsafe after receiving threatening letters. Their boycott, made despite repeated assurances of safety by the ICC, the ZCU, and then by an independent international security organisation

and a South African judge, is said to have

And this has given rise to speculation in Zimbabwe that the scheduled tour to England could be refused in response to

Aussies assume control

WEST INDIES: First innings 237 (S

Chanderpaul 100, R Jacobs 54 not out;

AUSTRALIA: First innings (overnight

Lehmann c Bernard (sub) b Drakes 6

A Bichel 3-55)

Langer c Hinds b Drakes

Hayden run out (Drakes)

Waugh lbw b Dillon

Hogg lbw b Collins

Gilchrist c and b Lawson

Bichel c Hinds b Drakes

Extras: (b-18, lb-5, w-2, nb-10)

"We had a serious discussion since the

defeat and we have identified certain

areas which need to be corrected. We

have also decided to give each mem-

ber of the team specific targets which

they must strictly follow on the

ground," said Mahmud without

was also scheduled to attend a brain-

storming session with former South

African off-spinner Pat Symcox last

night. Symcox is now in Dhaka as part

of the STAR Sport commentary team.

The Bangladesh Cricket Board is also

The beleaguered Bangladesh team

Total: (All out in 115.1 overs)

Lee c Dillon b Drakes

Gillespie b Lawson

MacGill not out

elaborating.

Ponting c Samuels b Drakes

120 - 1)

angered President Robert Mugabe.

If that were to happen, relations between the two countries, in cricketing terms, would be soured for several years. There is already intense animosity on the political front

England are due to tour Zimbabwe in November 2004 and this would certainly be jeopardised.

The chairman of the England and Wales Cricket Board, David Morgan was in Harare two weeks ago to smooth ruffled feathers following the World Cup boycott and to begin a healing process. He offered unspecified compensation for financial losses incurred by ZCU, which had been obliged to pay hotel cancellation fees at the last minute plus the heavy costs of catering, security and

England is also facing the possibility of losing up to 2.33 million pounds in television revenue if a compensation claim is lodged by the contracted TV The Sports Commission's manager

for "growth and development' Tawanda Manyeruka told AFP a decision would be conveyed to the ZCU by the end of the week. But the chairman Elias Musangeya was not available to confirm that or to explain the delay.

Fall of wickets: 1-37, 2-285, 3-300, 4

319, 5-349, 6-362, 7-447, 8-473, 9-485

Collins

Lawson

Drakes

Ganga

Bowler

MacGill

Hogg

Samuels

 $Hinds\,not\,out$ 

Smith not out

Extras: (nb-1)

Koertzen (RSA)

117

77

39

20

35

Looking into

23

21

21 6 49

26.1

WEST INDIES: Second innings

Total: (For no wkt in 5 overs)

M

1 96

5 93

0 1 0

0 M

Umpires: Asoka de Silva (SRI) Rudi

eager to involve other members of the

commentary panel like Indian great

Sunil Gavaskar in rubbing off their

Manager Col. (Retd) MA Latif Khan.

a firm believer in discipline, said that it

was unrealistic to expect any massive

regroup ahead of the South Africa

game. We are still trying to instill the

spirit de corps which is so essential in a

team environment. With time you will

see the results," said Latif.

Winners of the BAF Golf tournament pose with their trophies at the

Kurmitola Golf Club on Friday. Home Minister Air Vice Marshal (retd) Altaf

Hossain Chowdhury was present as the chief guest on the occasion. Group

Captain M Delwar won the title while Air Officer Commanding of the BAF

Base, Air Commodore Rashidul Haque won the Best Gross trophy.

"We have virtually no time to

cricketing wisdom on the players.

improvement in the next match.

2

1 116

0 111

13

R W

12 0

#### Mollah, Dastgir elected

SPORTS REPORTER

Golam Rasul Mollah and Alhai Dastgir Chowdhury were elected as the new president and secretary general of Bangladesh District and Divisional Sports Organisers Forum following its Annual General Meeting at a city hotel yesterday.

Minister for Fisheries and Livestock and Dhaka City Corporation Mayor Sadeq Hossain, Jute Minister Major (retired) M Hafizuddin Ahmed, BB, Alhaj Mosaddek Ali, political advisor to the Prime Minister, BFF president SA Sultan MP, BCB advisor Shah Nurul Kabir Shaheen MP, BAAF president Abdus Salam were present among others in the AGM that elected a 51-

## Ponting's plan

FROM PAGE 8

and put it away, because the outfield is so very fast that if you hit the ball in the gaps you should get fours."

Langer's score of 146 was his 14 Test ton and his second in five outings in the West Indies "The pitches in the Caribbean are

good to bat on and that's one of the reasons why I like to play here," Langer "The Caribbean brings the best out

of me because the atmosphere makes me happy and fresh. One of the few bright spots for the hosts was the performance of fast

bowler Vasbert Drakes. The 34-year-old, making his third Test appearance, claimed both centurions and finished with five for 93, his

best Test figures. "I don't think it was a wicket that any bowler would dream about, but playing against Australia and knowing that quite a few of their batsmen go at the ball pretty hard, I just tried to bowl in areas to contain them.

"We didn't do very well on Thursday but we were able to come back and bowl some good spells, and although the Australians have a big lead we can take heart from the way we performed.

"It will give the team more confidence going into the third day.' The West Indies will resume on 16

for no wicket, with Wavell Hinds on two, and debutant Devon Smith on 13.

#### Latif lauds

FROM PAGE 8

where they will take part in another triangular one-day series next month, also involving New Zealand. That will be followed by a trip to

England in June for the three-match NatWest Challenge. Zimbabwe are also heading to

England where they will play two Tests before taking part in a one-day series, also involving South Africa. "We did well to get to the final, but

didn't put enough runs on the board to challenge Pakistan. "It is something we have to work on

if we are to do well in England," said

#### Lanka may have FROM PAGE 8

before the Sharjah Cup.

On Friday morning he handed over an official letter confirming his position, explaining that it would not be in the interests of the team for him to continue.

The frontrunner for the temporary post appears to be former Sri Lanka captain Duleep Mendis, who was employed as an advisor during the runup to the World Cup. Australian Steve Rixon, New

Zealander John Bracewell and South African Graham Ford have all been short-listed as potential full-time coaches but a final decision remains some weeks away.

## FA Cup semifinals preview

# Seaman eyeing 1000th

#### Football

AFP, London

Arsenal goalkeeper David Seaman could make his 1,000th professional appearance when the holders face First Division Sheffield United in Sunday's FA Cup semi-final at Old Trafford.

England international Seaman has been out of action since sustaining a hamstring injury in March.

But the double holders' manager Arsene Wenger, whose side are currently leading the Premiership, said he would have no hesitation in bringing back Seaman, 39, for such a high-profile

a hamstring problem while fellow centre-back, Frenchman Pascal Cygan, "Robert will not play against

defender Martin Keown is doubtful with

Sheffield United, but there is a chance that he could be fit for next Wednesday (when Arsenal face title rivals Manchester United)," Wenger said. "I will assess Martin Keown on

Saturday morning and see if he can

play," the Frenchman added. England

full-back Ashley Cole is set to return after a hernia operation. Sheffield United last won the FA Cup in 1925 and have not appeared in the

But the Blades have been enjoying a fine season under voluble manager Neil

#### $trophy \, for \, the \, first \, and \, only \, time \, back \, in \,$ Under manager Gordon Strachan the 'Saints' have abandoned their annual fight against relegation and are 11th in the table. But they may have to do without captain Jason Dodd for Sunday's match. The defender has missed Southampton's last two matches with a bruised foot.

to put on a show.'

than Warnock's verse

Goalkeeper Antti Niemi (knee) is a doubt while striker Agustin Delgado (back) and Marian Pahars (knee) are both out.

Southampton will be most people's favourites but they have beaten First Division opposition three times on their way to the last four.

And Strachan said the pressure of the occasion would not be a problem for his team: "What can I say to the players? Relax lads, take it easy, take yoga classes," he told the Southampton website on Friday. "They're good enough lads to get on with it."

Watford, who reached their one and only FA Cup final in 1984 where they lost to Everton, could give a start to on-loan teenage Newcastle striker Michael Chopra. The 19-year-old forward scored four goals in Watford's extraordinary 7-4 league win over Burnley.

Earlier in the campaign Watford were on the brink of administration and the players had to take a 12 percent pay

But manager Ray Lewington said finance would be the last thing on their mind this weekend. "I've no doubt my players will give everything. They will run until they drop."

#### FA CUP SEMI-FINALS

SUNDAY

Old Trafford: Arsenal v Sheffield United (1230GMT)

Villa Park: Watford v Southampton (1530GMT)

#### CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer ACROSS **38** Aye 2 Differently 23 Stick 1 Big name undoer Old war figure? 40 Ice-cream story 24 Mac ketchup holder 4 Ph. bk rivals 6 Shocked 42 Moreover info 25 Jones' 44 Unpaid 5 Crisp partner 13 Not that 46 Almost bread 26 Baffle far off black 6 Wile E.'s ment 14 St. 50 Keglers' supplier 28 Illumin Francis' organiza-7 Oldest home astronaut uniformly 15 Courage 8 Stolen in a 16 On the 54 Kitchen way 30 Kauai brinv implebody 17 Needing 10 Broker's ments keepsake

Warnock. They are third in the First

Division and reached the semi-finals of

the League Cup earlier this season

Warnock has tried to make a virtue of

his team's underdog status, even writing

a poem for Friday's London Evening

Standard: "It's David versus Gloiath on

Sunday we know/and all we ask David is

before losing to Liverpool.

**DAVID SEAMAN** 

"There is no risk medically to play

David on Sunday. He has been back in

training and has been working hard,"

Arsenal are 1/7 favourites with

But they will be without France

winger Robert Pires (ankle) and England

55 Large

56 Least

mal

1 Greet the

Solution time: 27 mins.

DOWN

- Honey- 57 Infinitesi-

lizard

advice

11 Arduous

travel

12 Whiffen-

word

18 Piece of

21 Piece of

draperv

legislation

31 Kreskin's

33 Cagers'

34 Possess

39 "- truly

41 Follow

42 Heidi's

43 Conar

45 TV's

48 Rife

milieu

Batmar

47 Wise-ow

with

ivy

49 Verily

51 "Holy

53 Candle

a tie-

19 Wapiti

20 'The Aba

moon'

Creed

further

lower?

terization

22 Postal

24 Without

ado

29 Charac-

27 A little

32 Diet

**35** Mop

36 Recog-

37 Crudites

compan-

breaker

British bookmaker William Hill to defeat

the Blades in what will be a record-

equalling 23rd FA Cup semi-final.

Wenger said Friday.

CRYPTOQUIP

QIGSYQRIVHIF

VNHX'IH NGRVH JADF Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I ALWAYS GESTURE "HELLO" TO EVERY PERSON I MEET. I GUESS I HAVE A PERMANENT WAVE. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Q equals F

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

# Tick the correct answers, post to