SPÖRT

in Mymensingh, defending champi ons Biman got their campaign off to a good start with a four-wicket win over Dhaka at the Dhanmondi Cricke Stadium in their opening match.

Chasing a not-so-impressive Dhaka total of 159 in 50 overs, the national flag career reached 160 in 37 overs with four wickets still in hand.

Bangladesh Test batsman Javed Omar led Biman home with 35 off 55 balls followed by opener Mohammad Ashraful and middle-order Jahangir Alam who added 26 runs each.

Earlier, electing to bat, Dhaka scored 159 before being all out in 47.3

Middle orders Neeyamur Rashid and Sajjad Ahmed scored 46 and 45 runs for Dhaka.

Biman pacer Aminul Islam junior took four wickets for 31 runs.

Arambagh

much to the disappointment of his

On the other hand, Arambagh played cautiously from the start adopting mostly defensive tactics that helped them hold their opponents to a draw and then beat them in the tiebreakers.

Arambagh captain Oinu, Asad, Arman and Ashraful found the net for their team while Ashish and Naveem succeeded for Army. Kabir shot the ball over the crosspiece while Tutul kicked the ball straight to the goalkeeper

The other match of the day between Dhaka Wanderers Club and Victoria Sporting Club also ended goalless after the 90 minutes' play at the Bir Shreshtha Shaheed Mustafa Kamal Stadium in Kamalapur.

However, Wanderers prevailed in the end by winning the tiebreaker 4-3.

What to watch FROM PAGE 13

West Indies vs Zimbabwe

First Test, Day Four Live at 1:55 pm Sportscentre Hind Sport News

Live at 9:00 pm STAR Sports

Bangladesh vs England First ODI Live at 9:00 am Sportsline Tonigh Sport News Live at 8:00 pm

Inter held

clever cutback from the byline

Lokomotiv enjoyed plenty of possession without hurting the Italians in the final third, with central defender Fabio Cannavaro in imperious form at the heart of the Inter

Danieli Adani saw a close-range header strike the post five minutes after the break before Lokomotiv silenced the vast majority of the San Siro crowd by drawing level.

Loskov struck a low left foot shot which was heading straight at Inter goalkeeper Francesco Toldo only for the ball to clip Marco Materazzi's heel

and divert into the far corner. The equaliser rocked Inter and they nearly conceded another moments

later when Loskov, with only Toldo to beat, delayed his shot and allowed Javier Zanetti to nick the ball off his toe. Vieri was thwarted by a brilliant

one-handed save from Ovchinnikov as Inter regained the momentum before Gonzalez wasted a glorious opportunity by taking too long to shoot after breaking the offside-trap, giving Oleg Pashinin the time to intercept with a sliding tackle.

Inter finished the match strongly but failed to breach a watertight Lokomotiv defence which has conceded just three goals in four matches.

1 Word with 45 Humon-

41 Dimension

address

nom de

47 Round

48 Joseph

jazz

52 Resort

55 Boom

56 Rehab

58 Pupil's

DOWN

1 Re 58-

Across

necklace

Solution time: 25 mins.

2 Kind of

53 Workers

54 Řep's rival

procedure 57 "I" strain

ACROSS

4 Seam-

stress

7 Disney

game

12 Shell

13 Eggs

15 Beach

tion

18 Annov

22 Longing

27 Score at

29 Gripe a

31 OPEC

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miffed

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39 Summe

makers

the plate

member

provable

23 Bog

16 Inelegant

19 Stan's pal

14 Blazing

concern

"photo" or

"special"

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

brand

4 Vagrant

5 Speed-

reading

Wood

Dinner

Andre"

director

8 Vacation

9 Grease

11 "Uh-huh"

17 Connec-

21 Burritos

23 Salon

24 Airline

American

cousins?

requests

10 Back

7 Singer

6 "My

proponer

N'phamari stun Kaif holds up India

Cricket

Mohammad Kaif hit 64 to help India reach a competitive 246-9 against New Zealand in a TVS Cun triangular one-day series match here on Thursday.

The middle-order batsman hit five fours in his sixth half-century on a low. slow wicket at the Barabati Stadium which made stroke-making difficult.

Kaif put on 50 for the second wicket with opener Venkatsai Laxman (31) and 59 for the third with captain Rahul Dravid (31).

Tail-ender Zaheer Khan then plundered 20 runs in the last over of the innings by seamer Jacob Oram to remain unbeaten on a brisk 33 off 13 balls with two sixes and three fours

Seamers Scott Styris and Daryl Tuffey each grabbed three wickets and left-arm spinner Daniel Vettori two to restrict India to a modest total before Zaheer's last-over fireworks.

Hemang Badani (41) was the other notable contributor after the early dismissal of star batsman Sachin Tendulkar (14), trapped leg-before by seamer Kyle Mills.

New Zealand, winless after three matches, never allowed the Indian batsmen to build a big partnership in the day-night game. Vettori played a big role in contain-

ing runs, removing Dravid and Yuvraj Singh (nought) in the space of four Dravid uppishly drove the spinner to mid-wicket where Styris made no

mistake, while Yuvraj went for a big

shot early in his innings and was caught

Cricket

old 'keepers?

Styris then dismissed the well-set Kaif, who chopped the ball on to his stumps after facing 108 balls.

India made three changes from the team that lost to world champions Australia by 77 runs at Bombay last

SCOREBOARD Scoreboard after India's innings against New Zealand in the TVS Cup triangular one-day series match on Thursday:

31 Laxman c and b Styris Tendulkar lbw b Mills Kaif b Styris Dravid c Styris b Vettori Yuvraj c Mills b Vettori Badani c McCullum b Tuffev Bahutule lbw b Styris Agarkar c McMillan b Tuffey

Extras: (b-4, lb-2, w-2) Total: (For 9 wkts in 50 overs) 246 Fall of wickets: 1-27, 2-77, 3-136, 4-136 5-169, 6-193, 7-105, 8-206, 9-223

M 10 1 31 0 51 0 Vettori 39 Harris 0 13 0 NEW ZEALAND: Fleming, Vincent, McMillan, Harris, Oram, Styris,

Toss: India. Umpires: Neil Mallender (England) and Avi Jayaprakash (India).

McCullum, Mills, Nevin, Tuffey, Vettori.



India top-order Mohammad Kaif square-drives one exquisitely against New Zealand in the TVS Cup at Cuttack yesterday. PCB parts with

England safety 'guaranteed'

BBC ONLINE, undated

Sri Lankan cricket officials have received assurances from the country's President and Prime Minister that the tour by England is safe to go ahead.

A state of emergency has been declared on the island following the sacking of three politicians.

But the Sri Lankan government said

there would be no security threats to England are scheduled to arrive on November 13 and play three Tests and

three one-day internationals. "We are going ahead with our plans," Sri Lanka Cricket secretary

"The president's office and the government of Sri Lanka have assured us that there would be no hindrance or security threat for the safety of players and spectators during the England tour.

Mohan de Silva said.

The board said David Morgan, president of England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB), had been in contact with his Sri Lankan counterpart Thilanga Sumathipala and "has confirmed that the tour goes on as scheduled".

SERIES SALAD

team even after a had dav

"As long as I'm captain, I expect noth ing short of total commitment from my teammates. I don't want to reflect on the past. My motto is to live to fight another

"You're bound to lose if you think negatively before any game." Mahmud also advocated the need for

separate teams for Test and one-day

"We should start thinking for two separate Bangladesh teams. But this is not the right time since we don't have sufficient players to play with.

he will have another one tomorrow. If he

with chances they seemed oddly

Pakistan plays the first of five

probables for the one-day series against New Zealand starting later this month.

The Kiwis are returning to complete a one-day series abandoned in May last year when a suicide bomber killed 14 people, including 11 Frenchmen, outside their hotel in Karachi. "We are looking to the future as far as

one-day cricket is concerned and since Kamran Akmal has been playing well he has been preferred as wicketkeeper,"

Pakistani selectors Thursday left out

experienced wicketkeepers Rashid Latif

and Moin Khan from a list of 22

chief selector Aamir Sohail said as he announced the probable lineup.

matches against New Zealand at eastern industrial city Faisalabad on November 22, Rawalpindi next to the capital Islamabad on November 24 and 25 and the final two matches in Lahore on November 29 and December 1. PROBABLES

Imran Farhat, Salim Elahi, Salman Butt, Taufeeq Umer, Yasir Hameed, Inzamam-ul Haq, Yousuf Youhana Asim Kamal, Misbahul Haq, Bilal Asad, Abdul Razzaq, Azhar Mahmood, Shoaib Malik, Shoaib Akhtar, Mohammad Sami, Umer Gul, Shabbir Ahmed, Abdul Rauf, Mohammad Irshad, Fahad

Masood, Danish Kaneria and Kamran

Showtime for local

and will try to please my home crowd," he said adding that he was not suffering any jetlag.

Nusrat Iqbal, mother of Nafees,

could not hide her emotion at her son's entry into the national team. 'I am very happy that my son after a long wait has been given a chance to play

for Bangladesh. And his father (Iqbal Khan) would have been the proudest man had he been alive today," she said. Some former cricketers also lined up

to offer words of encouragement for Nafees ahead of the first one-day match. "He is a born cricketer. I knew he was

 $very\,talented.\,He\,started\,his\,career\,in\,the$ Chittagong First Division as my opening partner for Friends Club some four years ago," said Nurul Abedin Nobel, former national cricketer and presently the $curator\, of\, MA\, Aziz\, Stadium\, ground.$

"I hope, Nafees will inspire others to try and join the queue for the national team. He is surely breaking the ice for others here," said Nobel.

"Nafees will certainly carry on the

25 Legisla

26 Word

28 Swiss

indexers

canton

30 Through

31 On the -

32 After-hrs.

33 Pinnacle

37 Fairway

appear

slowly

43 Energetic

shake an

--- -eyed

Elch-A-

Sketch

(sharp-

sighted)

Muppet

homa!

bad guy

46 Ticklish

48 "Okla-

49 Away

from

50 Torched

42 Debate

44 Invert

36 Wing-

40 Dis-

Pakistan but here it is a different platform and moreover, he might have a prised if he chooses his home ground to

Hailing from a family of renowned cricketers, Nafees grabbed the spotlight since appearing in the Nirman Schools Cricket for Maple Leaf International in 1997. In 1999, he played in the Dhaka league for Wari Club. His impressive showing prompted Abahani Krira Chakra to rope him in. He joined

But with all the talent Nafees now

impression his uncle Akram Khan made

inspired us to join the Test family, Nafees will also serve the national team with pride and dignity," commented Shahin Aftabur Reza, president of Friends Club and a former cricketer. Captain Khaled Mahmud also spoke

highly about Nafees

'While it's true he didn't do well in hunger for runs. And I won't be surhave the feast he was eagerly looking

 $Mohammed an \, Sporting \, Club \, last \, year.$

faces the biggest challenge of his life, as he must live up to the reputation he has built over the years.

CRYPTOQUIP

YPVS BGYWVZXP X D P P H S Q X Z G A

UZAH EGUPT DZT FDWZFP

QDGVGWD Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN A WRONG

NAME IS ETCHED INTO A TOMBSTONE, CAN THAT BE VIEWED AS A GRAVE ERROR? Today's Cryptoquip Clue: T equals S

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.

Cole keeps Gunners

reluctant to devour. Gilberto leaped high above the

Kiev defence to meet Dennis Bergkamp's freekick but directed his header straight into the arms of a relieved Shovkovskyi. Twice Henry found space inside

the box only to lean back and lift his shot into the stand behind the goal. When Arsenal finally did manage

to hit the target, with a looping header from Ljungberg in the 34th minute, Kiev's centrehalf Goran Gavrancic was there to hook the ball off the line.

The pattern was to be repeated at the start of the second half, Bergkamp firing Henry's astute knock-down at the legs of Shovkovskvi before Pires dragged another half-chance across the goalkeeper and wide of the far

Yet another gilt-edged opportu-

nity was wasted when Pires headed Henry's cutback cross wide from six vards and Kiev almost made Arsenal pay by immediately mounting an attack which produced their best chance of the night.

Fortunately for Arsenal, their profligacy appeared to be contagious and an unmarked Oleg Husyev contrived to sidefoot his shot wide of Jens Lehmann's upright from only eight vards out.

Having survived that scare Arsenal continued to push forward in search

When Shovkovskyi tipped Bergkamp's drive over four minutes from the end another evening of bitter frustration seemed firmly on the cards before Cole's drive and determination finally delivered a victory that, combined with Inter Milan's draw with Lokomotiv Moscow, leaves the group wide open.

Celtic up to the task

First, Hartson laid off for Miller on the right and he sent in a dangerous looping cross that fooled Zitkal. Larsson, at the back post, battled to keep the ball in but the Swede could not direct it into the

Two minutes later Zitka had to be at his best to keep out a goal-bound header from midfielder Stilian Petrov at the back post after the Bulgarian was set up nicely by Miller with a cross from the right side.

However the big keeper could do little about Celtic's third goal just before the half hour when a Hartson flick-on gave an unmarked Chris Sutton the easiest of opportunities and the former Chelsea striker sent a diving header past

fighting but the first real chance fell to Aruna Dindane did well to hold off

the pysical threat of Bobo Balde in front of the Celtic goal however the Ivory

Coast forward's shot was deflected and

After the interval Celtic came out

It took Celtic almost 11 minutes to get a shot on goal, with Sutton supplying Harton on the edge of the box before he fought off defender Vincent Kompany and tested Zitka, who saved well.

Three minutes later defender Christian Wilhelmson was cautioned for handling the ball as Petrov bore down but Larsson's resultant freekick from the edge of the box flew well wide of Zitka's

O'Neill then made his first substitu-

tion of the night, sending on Michael Gray for Miller in the 75th minute, the Irishman walking off to a memorable standing ovation. A minute later, Anderlecht pulled a

goal back through Aruna after being awarded a penalty when the Ivory Coast forward fell in the box after a tackle by

Ivica Mornar saw his spot kick saved by Magnus Hedman in the Celtic goal and it was left to Aruna to smash the ball

Bayern hit by 'own

giants, was greeted with friendly banners on his return to Bavaria - but on the pitch he was given a far from cordial welcome

No-nonsense defending from Bayern saw Elber, 31, remain largely anonymous in the first 45 minutes but Bayern fans know all about the qualigoals for the 18-time German champi-

With 53 minutes gone Elber made

his mark, turning smartly in the penalty area to beat the onrushing Kahn with a well-placed shot. The goal sent Bayern back into their shell and the French visitors enjoyed a commanding quarter hour

particular that of midfielder Juninho. Munich coach Ottmar Hitzfeld had called for his side to do their talking on the pitch after some media comments from his players but in truth they never

spell with Bayern chasing shadows, in

looked like finding an equaliser. After the match, Hitzfeld was furious with their lack of a response.

"I am disappointed that we could not produce a better performance in the second half," fumed Hitzfeld. "We gave the ball away and did not get any "Giovane Elber's goal shocked the

team and we became nervous all of a Florent Malouda could and proba-

bly should have wrapped up the three points for Lvon with ten minutes remaining but lacked composure as he blasted his shot at the legs of the advancing Kahn. But the night belonged to Elber,

who came off on 80 minutes to a

standing ovation from the 59,000

supporters. The loss is Bayern's first at home this season and deepens the crisis at the German champions who lost 2-0 to Schalke 04 last weekend.

With last year's failure still fresh in the mind Bayern now face a fight to qualify for the quarter-finals with Lyon $and\,Celtic\,both\,perched\,above\,them.$

WI lose Lara cheaply

Cricket

West Indies captain Brian Lara surprisingly fell cheaply on the third day of the first Test against Zimbabwe at the Harare Sports Club here and the tourists, previously brimming with confidence, suddenly found themselves struggling to close a huge first

At the tea break they were 205 for the loss of three wickets, which is 302 in arrears.

Facing up to Zimbabwe's 507-9 declared, opening batsman Wavell Hinds set an aggressive tone with a powerful 79 before being caught off Blessing Mahwire.

Even though Chris Gayle fell victim

lbw to Heath Streak for only 14, with

Daren Ganga taking over the mantle

with Lara, two down for 127 at that point did not seem too bad a position. Lara, who had not played in a Test on this ground before, was expected to give a massive performance with a

score in three figures. But it was not to The loss of the West Indies captain for a mere 29 runs was a major psychological blow and conversely a triumph for Zimbabwe, who celebrated his exit

After lashing Blignaut, Lara took a brief look at Ray Price before dancing

down the wicket at him. It was a fatal move. A towering straight hit seemed destined for the sigh-tscreen, but Mahwire, racing round from mid-on, took a fine running catch some three metres inside the rope

In a few seconds, Zimbabwe, who

were preparing themselves for a

punishing afternoon at the hands of the West Indies captain in particular, instead found themselves attacking the tourists' middle order. Price, nephew of champion golfer Nick Price, who took six Australian

wickets in their second innings at Sydney last month, is turning this into a memorable period of his life. Ganga, in making a secure 68 by the

break, passed 50 for the sixth time in The day began with a freak accident after a ball, rolling onto the pitch as

players warmed up before play, was squash into it by a roller. It took two hours to repair and the umpires, who had been intent on making up time after the loss of 45 minutes through bad light on the

almost three hours behind schedule. They will play just as long as the light allows, but showers appear possible before the close of play.

second day, found that the match was

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at tea on the third day of the first Test between Zimbabwe and West Indies in Harare on Thursday: ZIMBABWE: First innings 507-9

Batting Tigers'

decided not to disclose the first XI and wants to wait till the last moment to see if left-arm spinner Rafique recovers from a knee injury

misses out, it will be a big blow," said Whatmore. But it was learnt from a source close to the team that Rafique will not be risked for this match atleast which will open the door for fellow left-armer Manjarul Islam

"Rafique had a fitness test today and

to play his first game for Bangladesh. Local boy Nafees Iqbal is also a strong possibility to make his debut and is expected to open with Hannan Sarker. Off-spinner Jamal Uddin is another

candidate for a first cap. England, meanwhile, have been

boosted by the return of star all-rounder Andrew Flintoff and pace bowler James Anderson, who opted out of the Test series due to injury Captain Michael Vaughan has

already warned Bangladesh he will settle for nothing less than a 3-0 sweep. "We are confident of winning all three matches," he said. "But we are not

taking things easy and are willing to work Joining England alongside Flintoff and Anderson are one-day specialists Vikram Solanki, Ian Blackwell, Anthony

Opener Marcus Trescothick is also available for selection after recovering

McGrath, James Kirtley and Andrew

declared in 139 overs (Streak 100 not out. Taibu 83, Blignaut 78 Matsikenyere 57; Edwards 4-122) WEST INDIES: First innings (overnight

Gayle lbw b Streak Hinds c Blignaut b Mahwire Ganga not out Lara c Mahwire b Price Sarwan not out Extras: (b-4, lb-2, nb-4, w-1)

Total: (For 3 wkts in 54 overs) Fall of wickets: 1-50, 2-127, 3-179 Bowler 68 Blignaut 14 3 16 4 50 3 Price 4 22

India U-19s

0 10 0

FROM PAGE 13

The juniors' visit to Pakistan was the first by an Indian team since another junior team toured Pakistan in 1998.

India snapped all bilateral cricketing ties with Pakistan in 2000 over political tensions but New Delhi's latest offer to revive sporting links and the junior teams tour have raised hopes of a senior Indian team touring Pakistan in February for the first time since 1989.

Sri Lankan captain Fervaiz Maharoof hit 57 for his team, which was pegged back by some fine paced bowling from Irfan Pathan who took 3-33 and Sunny Singh who grabbed 3-35.

Opener Robin Uthapa hit 88 off 86

balls to set the victory before Rayudu and Rakesh Solanki hit unbeaten half centuries. Pathan, whose name would come under consideration for the senior Indian team's tour of Australia next

month, was declared player of the

tournament with 19 wickets, defeating also Bangladesh and hosts Pakistan. Golf green for

It was then decided to send the groundsmen to the neighbouring Royal Harare Golf Club, borrow equipment which makes holes on golf greens, remove the offending dent on the pitch and replace it with soil and

grass taken from the golf course. It then needed time to dry and the

match started an hour late.

Deportivo drown in goal glut

from an injury to his left thumb.

minute strike. The France midfielder picked up a through ball and then deftly chipped Jose Molina coming out of the

Deportivo goal. Eight minutes later Monaco were celebrating their 50th Champions League goal when the Deportivo defence were caught napping again - a punt from midfield finding Giuly who nipped around Molina to slot the ball

into the net. The Spaniards' night went from bad to worse when Prso, standing in for

the injured Fernando Morientes. struck with a 26th minute header. The Croatian forward made the most of finding himself unmarked to

connect with a cross from the ever

Poor old Deportivo barely had time

to let this latest slight on their honour

sink in when they went further behind

with Prso's second on the half hour.

dangerous Rothen.

A fluffed clearance by Deportivo defender Nourredine Naybet was pounced on by Plasil whose cross across the goalmouth fell to Prso who headed in at the far post.

Stung by all this one way traffic

Deportivo, 1-0 winners over Monaco a

fortnight ago, picked themselves up off First Tristan struck after picking up a cross in the box with his back to goal and quickly turned to slot the ball

through Monaco keeper Flavio Roma's legs and then Scaloni tapped in. But the unstoppable Prso ensured the goal rush was not quite over as he grabbed his third and Monaco's fifth in first half injury time. Giuly broke fast down the right, his cross finding the waiting Prso who prodded the ball into Molina's vacant goal. Deportivo emerged for the second half with the weight of history against them as no team has ever come back from being so

far behind in the Champions League.

to expect the second half to mirror the first but this was no ordinary game, and three more goals were added to the

tally within seven minutes of the teams

Deportivo coach Javier Irureta wisely spared Molina any more embarnent, replacing him with substitute stopper Gustavo Munua but the switch brought no change of fortune for the unfortunate Spaniards as Plasil

and then Prso continued the Monaco Tristan got a double for Deportivo but Edouard Cisse completed

Monaco's goal feast with a fierce drive

which whistled past Munua. Monaco's heroics lifted them onto nine points with games against the bottom two clubs - PSV Eindhoven and

AEK Athens to come. Deportivo are placed second, two points behind.