Ishad rules the roost

BDNEWS, Dhaka

Ishad Hossain of BKSP lifted gold in long horse champion in the 18th National Junior Gymnastics Championships scoring 17.05 points at the National Sports Council gymnasium yesterday.

Quamrul Islam of BKSP and Shahidul Islam of Dinajpur finished second and third scoring 17 and 16.90 points respectively in the same event.

Shahidul Islam, however, clinched the parallel bars gold with 12.20 points, followed by Ishad Hossain (11 points) and Quamrul Islam (10.80 points).

In the girl's balance beam, Sathi Akhtar of BKSP took the honours with 10.65 points while Lubna Jahan of Dinajpur (9.55) and Anita Akhtar of BKSP (9) became second and third respectively.

The two-day junior gymnastics championships began Wednesday with 61 participants from 10 districts and BKSP.

Nepal spikers in city

SPORTS REPORTER

An 18-member Nepal national volleyball team arrived here yesterday to play three Test and some warm-up matches against Bangladesh across the country.

Both sides play the matches as part of their preparation for the South Asian Games to be held in August in Colombo. Three Test matches will be held

at the newly built Shaheed Suhrawardi Mirpur Indoor Stadium on May 26, 28 and 31 while other exhibition matches are scheduled for Gazipur, Narail, Satkhira and Dhaka on May 29, June 1, 2 and 4 respectively

Bangladesh are also scheduled to make a return tour to Nepal. Indies.

Pak not too keen on Zim

REUTERS, Karachi

Pakistan are having reservations about hosting Zimbabwe for a oneday series in September due a lack of financial incentive for the matches, the country's cricket board chairman told Reuters on Wednesday.

Zimbabwe had been scheduled to play three Tests and five one-day internationals in Pakistan this year but following a dispute between the African nation's cricket administration and its players, their Test status was suspended until February 2007.

India opt for young blood Despite the removal of Tests from the schedule. Pakistan pro-Cricket posed to host Zimbabwe for a threematch limited-overs series, however, the hosts are now having REUTERS, Mumbai

Go into today's 2nd Test against Eng sans Jayasuriya Cricket

Lanka get Malinga boost

enced batsman to face.

Jayawardene added.

Mubarak instead.

five-day game.

Cricket

both forms of the game. Tendulkar

opted out of a scheduled fitness Test

in Mumbai yesterday and informed

the selectors that he was not ready

my efforts in both forms of the game.

"I like the challenges under

mances, the uncapped 28-year-old

named as a third slow bowler along

with Anil Kumble and Harbhajan

the 21-year-old from Punjab with

just two one-day international

bowlers in the squad. Munaf (Patel),

(Irfan) Pathan and (Shantha)

Argentina 1978: The dawn

suddenly protested about the

protective sheath on Rene K's right

forearm. Since he'd been wearing it

for the last five matches without

objection, a little crude gamesman-

ship was clearly involved. Worse,

Gonella took the complaint seri-

ously, leading Van de Kerkhof off by

the arm to have it covered with

another, useless layer. Both sides

now knew what kind of official they

were dealing with (he'd been

appointed on the casting vote of

another Italian), Holland venting

their spleen with savage early

When the game settled down

the Dutch began to exploit

Argentina's vulnerability in the air,

Rep twice coming close to scoring

First he rose unopposed to

Han'sfree kick only to head wide

(first that miss in the 1974 Final,

now this) then he cushioned a

dreadful defensive header on his

thigh before bringing a marvelous

save from Fillol. Argentina would

have been lost without him -- and

without Kempes, who opened the

scoring after bursting between two

defenders and stabbing the ball

under Jongbloed on a carpet of torn

toilet tissue. The movement had

begun with Ardiles running past two

half but were frustrated by endless

handballs, needless to say unpun-

ished by bookings. In desperation

they replaced the hapless Rep with

Nanninga, big and direct, who

headed the equaliser from Rene

K's right-wing cross. Argentina's

Holland dominated the second

men

tackles on Bertoni and Ardiles.

"But we have three more fast

appearances to his name.

Singh

in an exclusive interview to PTI.

CRICINFO, undated

generates.

ised.'

"He's quite difficult, especially

"He's very accurate now.

with his action and the pace that he

Probably two years ago he was a

bit wayward but he's disciplined

himself and knows exactly the

areas now where he has to bowl,"

as international sides have real-

squad for former captain Sanath

Jayasuriya, with Michael Vandort

replacing dropped opener Jehan

36, only joined the squad during the

Lord's Test having previously

announced his retirement from the

But Sri Lanka's recently

Left-handed opener Jayasuriya,

"He definitely can be a handful

But there was no place in the

AFP, Birmingham

Sri Lanka captain Mahela Javawardene has named strike bowler Lasith Malinga in the 12man squad for the second Test against England here at Edgbaston

starting Thursday. Malinga, a 22-year-old fast bowler with a distinctively low arm action took five wickets in the tourists' previous match, against Sussex

"He does offer us something different, different variety and every time he plays he puts his hand up and says he wants to have a crack at the English," Jayawardene told reporters here Wednesday.

"It would be great to give him that opportunity," added Javawardene of a bowler who has already taken who has taken 54 wickets in 15 Tests at a respectable 29.48.

"But it all depends upon what installed chairman of selectors kind of combination we want to play Asantha De Mel helped him on the Edgbaston wicket, change his mind and after the explained Jayawardene ahead of tourists were bowled out for 192 in their first innings it seemed like a the second leg of three-match

shrewd move. Malinga's 'slingshot' action makes him one of the most unusual feature in the Sussex match and pace bowlers currently around and Jaywardene said: "He was in contention but what we realised Jayawardene, whose battling

Dravid begs tail to score

PTI, St. Kitts

India captain Rahul Dravid has exhorted the lower-order batsmen to come good and promised the team would bounce back to win the last two ODIs and take the fivematch series against the West

"We need to get more runs from the lower order but we will comeback. The batsmen are getting used to the slow wickets and will get better." Dravid said after India's four-wicket loss in the third onedayer on Tuesday. "We can win the next two

matches. The one positive in this series has been that all three matches have been close and we have not played anywhere near our best. "I am pretty confident that we can

do it." he said

century was the centrepiece of Sri was that when we started this tour Lanka's 14-hour rearguard action we decided on a youth policy and at Lord's, said he was a tricky we told the young guys we would customer for even the most experigive them the necessary opportunities

SPORT

"If we don't do that it won't be nice. If somebody hadn't given me a chance when I was young I wouldn't be here now," explained Jayawardene, 29 on Saturday.

He added: "The chairman of selectors has spoken to Tom Moody (the Sri Lanka coach and former Australia international).

"When he (De Mel) sent Sanath over he told him (Moody) you don't necessarily have to play him, he's just another option. If we want to use him we will."

TEAMS

ENGLAND (from): Andrew Flintoff (captain), Paul Collingwood, Alastair Cook, Matthew Hoggard, Geraint Jones, Jon Lewis, Sajid Mahmood, Monty Panesar, Kevin Pietersen, Liam Plunkett, Andrew Strauss, Marcus Trescothick.

SRI LANKA (from): Mahela Jayawardene (captain), Upul Tharanga, Michael Vandort, Kumar Sangakkara, Thilan Samaraweera. Tillakaratne Dilshan, Chamara Kapugedera, Farveez Maharoof, Chaminda Vaas, Muttiah Muralitharan, Lasith Malinga,

However, Jayasuriya did not Nuwan Kulasekara.

Tendulkar shuns retirement talks

pressure situations in limited-over qames and similarly when you negotiate the good spells of rival bowlers in Test matches.

Tendulkar was quick to attribute Soon after pulling out of the West India's new resurgence as a one-day side to Greg Chappell, the coach, ndies tour due to a shoulder injury, and his support staff, who have been Sachin Tendulkar has dismissed all successful in identifying key players. suggestions of retirement and "The difference that we see nsists that he will continue playing

today is that we have more matchwinners in the team and this should augur well for winning more matches and series, besides tournaments in the near future. "Somebody who has been

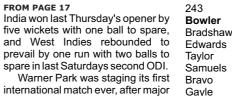
to return to international cricket as around for a long, long time has to "I have not thought of this (retireprovide value to each and every ment). I always believe in putting all player in the team. Greg has been in the game as a player, captain and One-day games are also equally otherwise for 40 years", he said. important as Test matches." he said

at Edubaston.

up at celebrity events and weekly appearances on a television show could affect his on-field perfor-David Lloyd the latest to express concerns

But Flintoff, 26, insisted his growing fame wouldn't harm his cricket. "I'm a cricketer: I enjoy playing cricket. After my family, it's

by performing on it. If that stops, there's nothing there," Flintoff also told reporters at Edubaston here



international match ever, after major renovations ahead of the 2007 ICC World Cup in the West Indies.

SCOREBOARD Scoreboard in the third one-day international between West Indies and India at Warner Park in St. Kitts and Nevis on Tuesday: INDIA

Dravid Ibw b Bradshaw	0
Raina b Bradshaw	26
Kaif run out (Chanderpaul)	61
Dhoni run out (Gayle)	15
Rao run out (Edwards)	11
Pathan c and b Samuels	1
Powar b Sarwan	1
Agarkar c Lara b Bravo	8
Harbhajan not out	8
Sreesanth not out	1
Extras: (lb-4, w-11, nb-1)	16
Total: (For 9 wkts in 50 overs)	245
Fall of wickets: 1-1, 2-62, 3-1	174, 4-
211, 5-216, 6-219, 7-224, 8-2	233, 9-

	BIT	s /	۸N	חו	B	OBS
vickets: 1-1, 2-62, 3 ⁻ 174, 4-	Powar	10	1	59	0	million fore
16, 6-219, 7-224, 8-233, 9-	Sehwag	1	0	11	0	attend the to

wickets and take 2-1 lead in the			М	C
ODI series.	2	40	2	8
Man-of-the-match:	0	49	0	9
Sarwan.	0	30	0	4
Toss: India.	1	41	0	0
Umpires: Steve Bucknor and Asa				7
Rauf.	0	35	0	0
	1	1	0	1
Eako balle	40			-
n: Ick	ODI series. Man-of-the-matcl Sarwan. Toss: India. Umpires: Steve Bu Rauf.	2 ODI series. 0 Man-of-the-matcl 0 Sarwan. 1 Toss: India. 2 Umpires: Steve Bu 0 Rauf. 1	402ODI series.490Man-of-the-matcl300Sarwan.411Toss: India.452Umpires: Steve But350Rauf.11	2 40 2 ODI series. 0 49 0 Man-of-the-matcle 0 30 0 Sarwan. 0 41 1 Toss: India. 0 45 2 Umpires: Steve But 0 35 0 Rauf. 0 1 1

down on its rampant piracy industry that produces everything from counterfeit sporting goods.

nearly enough.

China remain at epidemic levels and cause serious economic harm to US businesses in virtually every sector of the economy," the government said in an annual trade report to

Congress in March.

West Indies stalwart Ramnaresh Sarwan (R) plays a late cut for four past Indian wicketkeeper Mahendra Dhoni during the third One-day International between the teams at the Warner Park in Saint Kitts on Tuesday.

Sarwan

Baugh not out

131, 5-237, 6-241

Sreensanth 9.5

Edwards

Bowler

Pathan

Agarkar

Harbhajan

Extras: (b-4, lb-2, w-9, nb-2)

Did not bat: Bradshaw,

0

10

10

Austria and will arrive in Germany

on Thursday where they will be

Their first game is against Italy in

Czech midfielder Vladimir Smicer's

right leg during shooting practice

the Czech News Agency, CTK.

Smicer suffered a blood clot in a

He added that he did not see him

leg muscle, squad doctor Jiri

taking any further part in training at

the Seefeld, Austria, session or in

the Czech Republic's preparatory

games ahead of the World Cup.

A question mark already hung

over Smicer's participation in the

World Cup after being sidelined

tendon injury in his right thigh.

Oxfam red cards

Sportswear manufacturers

received a red card from interna-

tional charity Oxfam Wednesday

for failing to stamp out sweatshops

in Asia ahead of next month's

companies paid millions in spon-

sorship to the footballers who will

star at the tournament in Germany.

the workers manufacturing their

goods remained poorly paid and

In a report titled "Offside"

Oxfam said the workers, mainly

women living in impoverished

areas of Asian nations such as

Oxfam said while sportswear

manufacturers

football World Cup.

exploited.

competing in their first World Cup.

Hanover on June 12.

AFP, Prague

reported.

Fousek said.

CTK added.

June 3.

AFP, Sydney

Smicer a doubt

Total: (For 6 wkts in 49.5 overs)248

Fall of wickets: 1-30, 2-31, 3-116, 4-

м

0 50

0 57

R

31

33

Sarwan gives Windies lead

Freddie's focus

only on cricket AFP, Birmingham

England captain Andrew Flintoff has promised he will not let off-field pressures distract him as he continues to lead the side during the second Test against Sri Lanka here

The star all-rounder, captain in the ongoing absence through injury of Michael Vaughan, has become a hot commercial property since his exploits during England's Ashes winning campaign against Australia last year.

Sehwag Ibw b Bravo That has led to fears that his ancillary activities, including turning mance with Flintoff's former Lancashire and England coach

Result: West Indies won by four

The Daily Star

Fake balls, shirts

government, say China is not doing "Counterfeiting and piracy in

The World Cup kicks off in Munich on June 9, with about one million foreign fans expected to attend the tournament.

WEST INDIES Gayle c Dhoni b A Samuels Ibw b Sreesanth Morton Ibw b Agarkar FROM PAGE 20 Sarwan not out 115 Lara c Dravid b Harbhajan Chanderpaul Ibw b Pathan 58 Bravo run out (Pathan)

17

Taylor

w

copied DVDs to fake medicines and

But critics, including the US

second thoughts

"I don't think that is going to be possible as it is not feasible for us. We are going to write to them to postpone their tour until 2008, Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) chairman Shahryar Khan said.

Khan added that after talks with television rights holders and sponsors, the PCB felt it would not be financially viable to host Zimbabwe for just three one-day games this year.

Argentines

FROM PAGE 17

who saw little action in Japan, Ayala because of injury and Crespo Gabriel Batistuta's understudy for two World Cups, are also major players in the side Pekerman is arooming for Germany.

Pekerman may have found, too. a talisman in Barcelona's Lionel Messi, who could inspire Argentina in the manner of Diego Maradona in 1986. He is battling to be fit after a late-season injury, but should make it in time.

Will Ronaldo

FROM PAGE 17

born winner' career at international level appea to justify Parreira's optimism. fell at the first hurdle, while West

With 58 goals in 91 matches for Brazil, Ronaldo remains a class apart. His scoring record is even more remarkable when set against the fact that injuries have sidelined him for around three years throughout his career

He is also within touching distance of becoming the leading World Cup goalscorer of all time.

He currently stands on 12, two dispose of Brazil and the dangerbehind Germany's Gerd Muller on ous Poles. 14 and with first round opponents to include Japan. Australia and Croatia Brazil and Argentina found themat the World Cup, only a brave man selves with an equal number of would bet against him equalling or points with one match to play. After bettering the record. Brazil beat Poland 3-1 in the first

Ronaldo insists he is not motimatch. Argentina needed to defeat vated by personal glory but admits Peru by three clear goals to reach he has one eye on the record. the final

"I can't deny that the record is one of my objectives. It is not the eyebrows finished 6-0 to Argentina principal objective - that's winning and gave them a date in the final the World Cup - but I would be so against the Dutch. proud to be top-scorer in history and it will be on my mind." he said.

ment, Argentina took full advantage "I hope to help my team win the of some lamentable refereeing, this tournament by scoring as many time before the match had even goals as possible. That way both started. After keeping the Dutch objectives will be fulfilled. waiting for almost ten minutes, they

Suresh Raina has earned a call up to the India Test side after selectors included the stylish left-handed the tried and tested all round skills of batsman in a 16-man squad on Ajit Agarkar. Wednesday for next month's fourwe want to groom him," More said of

match series in the West Indies. After impressing in the one-day team, the uncapped 19-year-old was promoted to the Test squad after Sachin Tendulkar ruled himsel out of the series on Tuesday, the premier batsman failing to recover completely from shoulder surgery.

dribbling left-wingers in John

Robertson and the recalled Willie

Johnston. Enough to make people

believe the voluble new manager

when he intimated that Scotland's

third match, against Holland, would

be to decide who finished top of the

group. Before that, only an ageing

Peru followed by Iran, who must

have been terrified to hear that 'My

name is Ally MacLeod and I am a

Germany and Holland had both

made a meal of qualifying for the

cruised to the top of the table and a

place in the final despite a difficult

group which included Italy and

In the second stage, Holland

Argentina, for their part, had to

When the dust settled, both

The result which still raises

For the last time in the tourna-

Spain. France and Scotland all

FROM PAGE 20

second stage.

Germany.

Sreesanth are bowling well," More Off-spinner Ramesh Powar also said. The selectors have opted for just earned a place in the squad based two specialist openers in Virender on his impressive one-day perfor-

Opting for youth over experimade a comeback into the squad as ence, fast bowler Vikram Rajvir the second gloveman after Dhoni. Singh was given the nod ahead of The first Test is in Antiqua from

Sehwag and Wasim Jaffer instead

of three as is the norm for long

Wicketkeeper Dinesh Karthik

June 2. SQUAD "He has tremendous potential,

overseas tours.

Rahul Dravid (captain), Virender Sehwag, Wasim Jaffer, VVS Laxman, Yuvraj Singh, Mohammad Kaif, Suresh Raina, MS Dhoni, Dinesh Karthik, Irfan Pathan Shantha Sreesanth, Munaf Patel VRV Singh, Anil Kumble, Harbhajan Singh, Ramesh Powar.

defence badly missed the height of

In injury time at the end of ninety

minutes, the unkindest cut in any

World Cup Final. Rensenbrink,

running in that hunched way of his,

fingers flicking behind him, got to

Krol's long free kick deep in the left-

prodded it past Fillol. The ball hit

the near post and Holland's last

chance was gone. In extra-time,

Kempes stormed through again,

beating two men. Jongbloed saved

at his feet but the ball bounced off

Kempes, who prodded it home as

two more defenders collided in

front of him. Then Bertoni scored

gleefully from point-blank range

another lucky bounce. Holland

were the first country to lose con-

secutive Finals, each time against

the hosts. Tarantini was the only

of General Jorge Rafael Videla,

which had the blood of thousands

on them. The Mothers of the Plaza

de Mayo, protesting day after day

about the disappearance of their

sons, were glad the World Cup had

been staged in Argentina, but only

because it brought them to the

notice of the world. The tournament

had been vivid and unforgettable,

but then so is an electric cattle prod.

being registered with a club.

Saint-Etienne's Osvaldo Piazza.

Wednesday, a day before the Test is due to start at the Birmingham ground. Meanwhile, Flintoff said he was

relishing the captaincy. "I'm enjoyng it and I'm learning all the time."

BCB hunts FROM PAGE 17

players, Khulna four, Narayangan two while BKSP and Sylhet lost one each.

"We have expelled those players from the tournament who have been proved over-aged in the medical test." said member-secretary Ali Hossain, adding that the medical tests for the players of Chittagong. Tangail and Chandpur will be held tomorrow. Meanwhile, the final round begins

today at four city venues today.

Dalglish: Best FROM PAGE 20

I'm sure he will be given every opportunity because he is different class as a player. hand side of the penalty area and "But if he's not fit, he's not fit, and

you just have to get on with it." Dalglish also believes Scotland are finally on the right track under

the guidance of Walter Smith. The Scots failed to qualify for the World Cup finals, with Smith replac-

ing Berti Vogts too late to have a realistic chance of salvaging their gualifying campaign. But they were boosted by their

after another cavalry charge and recent success in the Kirin Cup tournament in Japan and Dalglish capped 102 times for Scotland - is confident a brighter future lies ahead. He added: "Winning the Kirin

player to appear in a Final without Cup isn't important to many people but I think it's a significant indication The most obscene tableau was of how things are going under saved for the end, Passarella Walter receiving the trophy from the hands

"It's the realisation that things are going better than people expected. "I know we haven't qualified for

anything yet but winning that cup is an endorsement of what he has done. He has made tremendous strides forward.

"He has a beast of a qualifying section for the European Championships, which doesn't help, but we are moving in the right direction.

What I think people remember is players who play in teams that win things. Everyone talks about England - and everyone talks about 1966 - absolutely everyone.

REUTERS, Zagreb

Almost half of Croatia's workforce plan to take time off during the World Cup next month, according to a poll on Wednesday.

"Some 15 percent of employed Croats plan to fake illness during the World Cup while 27 percent of them will take leave so they can freely enjoy the soccer," said a local web-based employment agency, www.posao.hr, which organised the poll

The survey, conducted between April 25 and May 5, covered 1,074 people, mostly aged between 18 and 39. Some 60 percent of those polled were men.

A third of those surveyed said the World Cup would negatively affect their productivity.

Local media reported on Wednesday that some 20,000 Croats plan to travel to Berlin to watch Croatia's opening game against Brazil on June 13.

Croatia are in Group F which also includes Japan and Australia.

Ghana promised payout

INTERNET, undated

The government of Ghana will give each player of the national side US\$20,000 for every game that they win at the World Cup finals, and the bonuses will improve should they progress past the first

The government would therefore pay out at least US\$460,000 for any game which the team wins in Group F, a tough group in which they will face the Czech Republic, Italy and the United States.

Deputy sports minister Osei Bonsu Amoah told the BBC: "We are making this offer to encourage the players to give their utmost best

Indonesia and Sri Lanka, often "The offer will be greatly faced intimidation or even assault if

> they demanded better conditions. Oxfam produced a league table of 12 leading sportswear manufacturers based on their labor practices but said none met minimum

requirements. "They would all receive a red card if they were on the field," report

co-author Tim Connor told AFP. "In fact, if there was a world cup

for companies that respect labor rights, the sports brands would not even get through the qualifying rounds.

World Cup worries deepened on Thai bookies are wor-Tuesday when he was taken to an Austrian hospital after injuring his ried

AFP. Bangkok

Bangkok's bookies can expect twice as many people to bet on World Cup matches this year, but the money they ante up will fall by more than 70 percent from four years ago, a Thai pollster said Wednesday

Some 600,000 people in the Thai capital are expected to wager on the tournament, up from 300,000 during the last World Cup in 2002, according to the ABAC poll by Assumption University.

from football since February with a "We found that the surplus of Before leaving for the Seefeld money wagered would decline from training camp, Smicer said he nine billion baht (234 million dollars) in 2002 to two billion baht (52 million hoped at least to take part in the Czech Republic's warm up match dollars) in 2006 due to the current against Trinidad and Tobago on economic situation and other crises," pollster Noppadon Kannika told AFP

The survey of Bangkok, which guestioned some 1,500 people from May 19-23, found that nearly 58 percent of respondents would bet on Brazil to win, while nearly 20 percent favored England and 12 percent chose Germany.

Although gambling won't be as ntense as during the last World Cup, police will step up measures to curb illegal gambling.

"We are focusing more efforts to cut down on crime by stepping up inspection at suspected dens and blacklisting them," said national police spokesman Ajirawid Subarnbhesaj.

Police have prepared some 100 anti-gambling squads, and are trying to increase the fines for offenders

summer

Ghana's World Cup team could receive a huge financial windfall if they are successful in Germany this

round of the tournament.

for the country.' mproved if they go beyond the group stages of the competition." The Black Stars have been holding a pre-World Cup camp in

Croatians will skip work!

FROM PAGE 20